

NEWS ROUNDUP

Cardiff favourite for new BA base

British Airways is to spend more than £60 million in building a new engineering base to maintain its growing number of aircraft (Harvey Elliott writes). Facilities are needed as establishments at Heathrow and Gatwick airports have almost reached capacity in the handling of BA aircraft plus aircraft sent for "service" by other airlines. Cardiff has emerged as the favourite for the new base, which could provide 1,500 jobs and be in operation by 1993.

There is a world shortage of engineering facilities, and it has been calculated that between now and the end of the century there will be an 80 per cent increase in demand for new engineering facilities.

The new base, which could be built in Cardiff, Liverpool or the Far East, would not involve a reduction in work at Heathrow or Gatwick, but would be expanded to their limits within the next few years. Sir Colin Marshall, chief executive of British Airways, said in Cardiff last night that a decision on whether to go ahead with the creation of the new base at Cardiff airport would be taken this summer.

'£5m fraud' charges

A futures dealer accused of fraud was remanded in custody for a week yesterday. Mr Stephen Paul Francis, aged 27, of Westmoreland Terrace, Pimlico, central London, faces four charges laid under the Forgery and Counterfeiting Act of 1981.

Few details of the charges have been disclosed, although Mr Francis's defence lawyer confirmed outside court that the alleged fraud involved "at least £5 million". The four charges, all relating to a single document, were not read to Guildhall Magistrates' Court in the City of London and Mr Francis did not speak during the two-minute hearing.

No action on diplomat

A senior diplomat arrested five months ago under the Prevention of Terrorism Act will not be charged, it was confirmed yesterday (Quentin Cowdry writes). Mr Andrew Balfour, aged 39, a former vice-consul at the British Embassy in Dubai, was questioned about possible involvement in an alleged visa racket. The Crown Prosecution Service, however, has decided there is insufficient evidence against Mr Balfour, of Weybridge, Surrey.

Defence deal likely

Britain is expected to win a huge defence export contract with the purchase by South Korea of about 100 Hawk jet fighters (Michael Evans writes). No deal has been completed, but the Seoul Government is expected to sign an initial order for about 20 two-seat Hawk jet trainers, which are built by British Aerospace at Brough on Humber, Warton and Samlesbury, near Preston, and Dunsfold in Surrey. Seoul is known to want 100 Hawks in all.

Murder charge

A 48-year-old man was last night charged with the murder of Ruth Stevens, the missing Wiltshire shop assistant. He is expected to appear before magistrates today in Wimborne accused of killing Miss Stevens, of Westbury, who disappeared on December 12. Police have not yet found her body. Her Vauxhall Viva car was found in London more than two weeks after her disappearance.

Flu adds to death toll

More than 100 people a day died of influenza in the week before Christmas (Thomson Prentice writes). The Office of Population Censuses and Surveys said yesterday that deaths from all causes in the week ending December 22 totalled 19,180, including 782 directly attributable to flu. The weekly average of deaths from all causes in mid-December is about 12,000, suggesting that the epidemic was an underlying cause of many of the extra 7,000 deaths.

Exclusion order sought**Labourer set free then rearrested**

By Robin Young

An Irish labourer against whom no evidence was offered of a charge of possession of explosives was rearrested yesterday before he could leave court.

Police then applied to Mr David Waddington, the Home Secretary, for an exclusion order which would ban Mr Daniel McBrearty from returning to the UK for at least three years.

Mr Martin Heslop, for the Crown Prosecution Service, told the court that swab tests taken from the hands of Mr McBrearty, who was arrested on October 5, showed traces of the explosive RDX, which was consistent with his having handled the explosive.

Mr Heslop said the swab tests were the only evidence against Mr McBrearty, of East Ham, east London. It was possible the traces of explosive had been transferred to Mr McBrearty's hands by chance contact with someone else at work or where he lived.

Mrs Gareth Pierce, Mr McBrearty's solicitor, asked when the scientist who examined Mr McBrearty on October 5 had first been asked whether the traces on his hand might have arisen from innocent contact with someone else. Mr McBrearty should have had the opportunity to question the evidence "three months and three days ago."

On hearing that he was to be discharged, Mr McBrearty turned to his cheering wife and friends, waved his fists in the air, and shouted: "Always innocent, always innocent." He was immediately re-arrested on leaving the dock,

however, and his wife Meira collapsed in tears when told of the application for an exclusion order.

• A Dublin court yesterday

ordered the extradition of Desmond Ellis, aged 37, a TV engineer, of Dunsink Road, Finglas, to stand trial for terrorist bombings in Britain.

Police have warrants alleging that he had explosives in his possession and conspired with three others to cause explosions in the United Kingdom between January 1, 1981 and October 27, 1983.

District Justice Mary Kotsopoulos ordered that he be handed over to the Metropolitan Police at Balderton military airport, outside Dublin, and be taken to London. After the hearing at the Dublin District Court, Ellis's lawyers said he would appeal.

He was arrested in April on the British warrants when freed from Portlaoise prison after an eight-year sentence imposed by the anti-terrorist Special Criminal Court.

He had jumped bail before his trial in 1982, and fled to the United States, but he was deported to Ireland. In June last year an apparent attempt to free him from custody was foiled when police found a 1lb Semtex bomb attached to a grid near the cell in which he was being held on remand.

• Papers have been stolen from a Ford Fiesta belonging to Dr Brian Mawhinney, the junior Northern Ireland minister, it was disclosed yesterday. The papers, in a folder also containing personal effects, concerned constituency matters.

Aligning himself with the official wing of the anti-smoking lobby, Mr Amos

MP tries to cut down passive smoking

By Nicholas Wood, Political Correspondent

The after-dinner cigar was in jeopardy last night as a young Conservative MP made ready to pursue his anti-smoking crusade.

Mr Alan Amos, MP for Heddon in Northumberland, was planning to use a late night Commons debate to press the Government for a ban on smoking in public places.

Mr Amos, aged 37, who has already sponsored one Commons motion aimed at curbing the use of tobacco, said that he wanted to see smoking banned on public transport, in restaurants and cafes, places of entertainment, at the workplace and in schools.

Aligning himself with the official wing

of the anti-smoking lobby, Mr Amos explained that he was not seeking a blanket ban on smoking in restaurants. If smokers and their noxious fumes could be sealed off from non-smoking customers — by setting aside one floor of a building, for instance — that would be an acceptable compromise.

On the railways, Mr Amos was looking for a change of attitude, in which the smoker's pariah status was more clearly underlined. "BR should put the onus on smokers and have 'smoking carriages' which could be identified by the flag inside and the fact that they are all empty. I want separate facilities for smokers and not the other way round."

Pointing out that smokers make up

only one third of the adult population, Mr Amos added: "This is about extending and enhancing the rights of the majority not to live in an anti-social and dangerous environment." Independent research conducted for the Department of Health showed that passive smoking increased the risk of lung cancer by 30 per cent. In addition, it had been shown that over a normal lifetime, living in a smoke-filled environment was 100 times more dangerous than living with asbestos.

Mr Amos also conjured up popular concern about "green" issues as a further reason for curbing smoking, saying it would help cut atmospheric pollution.

Aesthetic considerations were equally

important.

exceptional one". A call for a Christmas truce was rejected.

On January 3, Mr Clarke wrote to health authority chairmen, saying it would be "unfair" if the officers were to win a bigger pay rise than others "by taking crude industrial action". He said: "We cannot reintroduce the notion into the service by conceding a formula or pay mechanism for ambulance staff that links them to firefighters, the upper quartile of manual workers' pay or any other device."

"It would be a disaster for the NHS if every year the Whitley Council (the industry's bargaining body) opened with a benchmark award to ambulance staff based on some generous formula of the kind that the police have."

Last Friday, Mr Nichol wrote to Mr Clarke accusing him of ignoring the offer to review the 1986 salary structure "without pre-conditions".

Mr Poole has not flinched in his determination to win a better agreement. "The offer of 6.5 per cent is an insult to hardworking and dedicated people,"

THE TIMES TUESDAY JANUARY 9 1990

Anatomy of the ambulance officers' dispute**Phoney war that became a bitter battle**

By Tim Jones
Employment Affairs Correspondent

When leaders of the five unions involved in the ambulance dispute gathered in the vestry of a Blackpool church in the first week of September to announce a ban on overtime and rest-day working, few imagined that the confrontation between crews and managers would become so bitter and emotional.

Since then, Mr Kenneth Clarke, Secretary of State for Health, has become embroiled in a Conservative minister's nightmare: a dispute in which a big proportion of the public appears to side with the unions.

The September meeting marked the first time most had heard of Mr Roger Poole, the chief union negotiator, who has since become an instantly recognizable public figure. His members had rejected a 6.5 per cent pay offer last May, but it was in September that he announced that they wanted their pay to be determined by the index-linked formula enjoyed by firemen — "so there will never again be action over pay".

This has since become a fundamental issue, preventing agree-

ment between the two sides. A trained fire officer earns £13,125, while an ambulance officer earns £10,093. To achieve parity, the union leaders insisted in September that their members were also part of the emergency services, and demanded a rise of 11.4 per cent.

Mr Clarke has consistently said this will not be conceded. The dispute began with a fum-to-one vote for industrial action in a workplace ballot. However, its effect was minimal until, on September 19, the stakes were raised by officers and control assistants starting an overtime ban in sympathy with crews.

The phoney war quickly became earnest and intensified further on September 22 when joint talks broke down after Mr Duncan Nichol, chief executive of the National Health Service, said he could not accede to union demands for the dispute to go to independent binding arbitration.

Eight days later, London was the

focus of an increasingly acrimonious stalemate as crews in the capital refused to work normally and the police were drafted in to deal with emergency calls. Amid claims by each side that the other was making patients suffer, a marathon negotiat-

ing session was held at the offices of the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service on October 26. However, the gulf was too wide to be bridged by state pre-dawn sandwiches.

The failure of those talks effectively spread the dispute from London to large areas of Scotland and the English provinces, notably the Midlands, although apparently other areas of Britain were virtually unaffected. The dispute took on a new political and emotional momentum when on November 8 the

service offered additional payments for specially-trained paramedical staff, who he said would thus receive rises of up to 16.3 per cent. The offer was immediately rejected by the union, which argued that it amounted to little more than the original offer of 6.5 per cent over 12 months.

Towards the end of November, in an announcement that may have considerable bearing on the way the ambulance service is run, Mr Clarke warned that continuation of the dispute might lead to non-emergency work being contracted out.

On December 8, Mr Clarke announced that the moderate Association of Professional Ambulance Personnel would be recognized as a negotiating body in a move intended apparently to undermine the position of the crews. However, it backfired when members of the association began resigning and decided the offer was also unacceptable.

At Christmas, Mr Clarke infuriated ambulance crews and politicians, including some Tory backbenchers, when he wrote to a Nottingham girl, aged 15, saying that the vast majority of crews were professional drivers, and that this was "a worldwide job — but not an

Waddington to check evidence on pub bombers

By Richard Ford and Stewart Toulson

New submissions on behalf of the six men convicted for the Birmingham public house bombings will get speedy consideration. Mr David Waddington said at his first meeting as Home Secretary with Mr Gerry Collins, the Irish foreign minister in London yesterday.

Submissions on behalf of the Birmingham six were sent to the Home Office in December by Miss Gareth Pierce, one of the defence solicitors. The six — Patrick Hill, Hugh Callaghan, John Walker, Dick McIlveen, Gerry Hunter and Billy Power — have always protested their innocence in the bombing, claiming they confessed after they were beaten.

It is almost two years since the Court of Appeal threw out the second appeal by the six against their conviction for the 1974 bombings. Irish sources believe that not too much significance should be made of the security reclassification last year of the Birmingham six from category A to category B.

Although some in the Irish Republic believe this was a preparatory move towards their release, there is a feeling that the change in category was recognition that the prisoners had been of good behaviour and that it might open the way to their being moved to an open prison.

The new submissions are said by the Home Office to be substantial and detailed. It will take Mr Waddington

Baby care unit emergency after deaths

MICHAEL POWELL



Nurses caring yesterday for a premature girl who was moved from the paediatric intensive care unit to another ward at the Brompton Hospital, Fulham, west London, after six babies sharing the unit died. Doctors said their deaths were caused by an unidentified virus, which could affect the heart or lungs. The unit and three operating theatres were closed.

Labour plans to halt student loans Bill

By Sam Kiley, Higher Education Reporter

The Labour Party will attempt to block the controversial student loans Bill in Parliament today by calling for an adjournment when the legislation is read in committee.

The move comes after the banks had pulled out of negotiations with the Department of Education and Science, Mr John MacGregor, Secretary of State for Education and Science, said that the withdrawal would not affect the proposals except that students would be denied an advice point and convenience means of payment.

However, Mr Straw said he wanted to know whether the Student Loans Company, based in Glasgow, would be a "direct Civil Service operation, a Civil Service agency, or some arms' length company".

Mr James Pawsey, chairman of the Conservative backbench education committee and member of the standing committee scrutinising the Bill, said it was "going ahead despite a little local difficulty with the banks".

The Bill contains no details of how a student loans scheme would work but merely states that the Secretary of State for Education and Science shall have the power to introduce a loans mechanism.

Mr Jack Straw, Labour's education spokesman, said yesterday that now the banks had pulled out, Parliament had no information about how the scheme would run, or who exactly would run it.

A motion to adjourn a Bill in the committee stage is almost unknown, and although few Conservatives are expected to support it there has been criticism of the Bill

from backbench Conservatives. Mr Robert Rhodes James described it as "an insult to Parliament".

When he announced that the banks had pulled out of negotiations with the Department of Education and Science, Mr John MacGregor, Secretary of State for Education and Science, said that the withdrawal would not affect the proposals except that students would be denied an advice point and convenience means of payment.

However, Mr Straw said he wanted to know whether the Student Loans Company, based in Glasgow, would be a "direct Civil Service operation, a Civil Service agency, or some arms' length company".

Mr James Pawsey, chairman of the Conservative backbench education committee and member of the standing committee scrutinising the Bill, said it was "going ahead despite a little local difficulty with the banks".

CORRECTION

The director of the Oxford Street Association, quoted in a January 3 report on the rating system, is Mr Harry Shepherd, not Mr Roy Shepherd.

OPINIONS TRADE

AT 9.45 PM ON RADIO 4

'The Financial World Tonight'. Hear the stories behind tomorrow's headlines and catch up on all the day's financial, business and industrial news. 'The Financial World Tonight' on BBC Radio 4. Tonight at 9.45.

BBC

Assembly line allegations

Motor dealers 'paid £650,000 for spares stolen from Ford'

By Ronald Faux

Production workers stole Ford components worth thousands of pounds and sold them in a nationwide conspiracy, it was alleged yesterday.

Police found parts worth £130,000 at one motor dealer in east London, Liverpool Crown Court was told.

The conspiracy was helped by a lack of stock checks on the assembly production line at Halewood, Merseyside, and a management-union agreement banning body checks for workers leaving the plant.

Robert James Whyatt, aged 40, of Billericay, Essex, Robert Anthony Crotty, aged 29, of Chadwell Heath, east London, and Michael Robert Holland, aged 48, of South Ockenden, Essex, all pleaded not guilty to conspiracy to handle stolen Ford car parts between January 1985 and November 1988.

Mrs Lynn Jones, aged 37, of Badminton Street, Liverpool, denied two charges of handling stolen parts.

Seven other men have already been convicted of conspiring to handle stolen Ford parts.

Mr Eric Somerset Jones, QC, for the prosecution, said no exact figure could be put on the loss to Ford or the profit to the alleged conspirators, although it was a massive and long-term operation.

When police searched the premises of RJW Automotive Ltd in Barking, east London, stolen Ford parts worth £130,000 retail were seized. Invoices disclosed more than

£650,000 of stolen parts were received in the previous year.

Mr Somerset Jones said the parts were in containers alongside the Halewood assembly line. No stock check was kept and an agreement banned body searches of workers.

Some workers taped parts together and hid them in their clothing, he said.

The spares were collected at a central depository in Liverpool and transferred to a "fence". They were handed over in a car park or lay-by to Ian Ainsworth, of Ilklingworth Road, Preston, Lancashire, who paid for the delivery after selling the parts to apparently

legitimate retail outlets. They were paid for with a blank cheque and invoiced with a false value-added-tax number.

Mr Somerset Jones said one outlet was RJW Automotive, owned by Mr Whyatt. Mr Crotty and Mr Holland helped to manage the company and knew of an arrangement between Mr Whyatt and Ainsworth under which the company bought stolen parts.

During the alleged conspiracy, the turnover of RJW Automotive soared from £279,000 in 1985 to £1.2 million by 1988. Turnover fell sharply in the months after police searched the premises.

"I said they were stolen."

The trial continues today.

Judge tells Brown jury that case is not about morality

By Mark Souster

The jury in the case of Ron Brown, the Labour MP who is charged with theft and criminal damage at the flat of his former mistress, will this morning be sent out after five days of hearing evidence.

Judge Gower, QC, sitting at Lewes Crown Court, told them to ignore the fact that Mr Brown, MP for Edinburgh, Leith, was a public figure, whose trial had attracted a "blaze of publicity".

The judge said: "It is very important that you should not judge Mr Brown by any different standard from that which you would apply to the trial of anybody else."

"One must not expect from a man simply because he is in a public position, a higher standard of morality and behaviour than that which we would expect from anyone else. He is a human being like the rest of us."

Mr Brown, aged 51, and married, is charged with theft and criminal damage on April 25 last year at Mrs Nonna

Longden's flat in St Leonards on Sea, Sussex.

In his summing up, Judge Gower, told the jury that they should not convict Mr Brown of theft if they were convinced he did not intend to permanently deprive Mrs Longden of the items.

Both the judge and Mr Edward Rees, for the defence, in his closing speech, stressed that the fact that Mr Brown had opted not to give evidence "should not be held against him".

Mr Camden Pratt, for the prosecution, said the Crown's case was that Mr Brown had committed the offences acting out of spite.

Mr Pratt said Mr Brown had "prevaricated" to shift the blame on to other people. "It was to his own skin that Mrs Nonna Longden and Mr Dermot Redmond (her new boyfriend) were put through the hoop during cross-examination." Mr Pratt alleged that Mr Brown had taken a picture, jewellery and underwear "not

summing up this morning

because they were of great value but because the removal of them would hurt".

He said Mrs Longden was a "blackmailer" over alleged demands of up to £20,000 for politically sensitive tapes, and that Mr Redmond was a liar.

Mr Rees said the case against his client rested on the "reliability" of both Mrs Longden and Mr Redmond, who had called the police on the night of the alleged incident.

He said: "They have told some whoppers and they have lied on oath." He asked the jury: "Would you buy a used car from Mr Redmond? This is not a joke, it is quite serious. If the answer is 'no' we are in a different game in this courtroom. You are being asked to convict a man and do him irreparable damage on the word of a man you wouldn't buy a car from."

Judge Gower will finish his summing up this morning

By Craig Seton and Stewart Tendler

The West Midlands police authority decided yesterday to readvertise the £55,600-a-year post of chief constable after only four candidates put their names forward for what is regarded as one of the top jobs in British policing.

The Labour-controlled authority has also dropped the condition it originally imposed that applicants must be either serving chief constables or officers of a similar senior rank within the Metropolitan Police, which would usually be the level of assistant commissioner or acting assistant commissioner.

The authority is asking sim-

ply for "suitably qualified officers" to apply. Last year, the police authority for another smaller force decided to readvertise the post of chief constable. There has been criticism that not enough top-quality officers are reaching senior levels. Late last year, the Home Office announced the creation of a fast stream of officers to encourage high fliers.

Some posts, however, do encourage big numbers of applicants. The post of chief constable of the Royal Ulster Constabulary drew more than 300 applicants last year before a London officer was chosen for the job.

The four applicants for the West Midlands post, which is being vacated by Mr Geoffrey

Dear, are Mr David O'Dowd, Chief Constable of Northamptonshire, Mr Michael Hirst, Chief Constable of Leicestershire, Mr Ian Oliver, Chief Constable of Central in Scotland, and Mr John Newing, a Deputy Assistant Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police, who has been working at the Home Office.

However, sources within the force of 7,000 officers said yesterday that four new chief constables would not be embroiled in an inquiry started long before he was appointed.

It was pointed out that when only three candidates applied for the job when it was vacant in 1985, it was also

decided then to readvertise, resulting in only one more applicant coming forward before Mr Dear was appointed.

The source also dismissed the suggestion that potential applicants may have been deterred by the present investigation by the West Yorkshire police into alleged corruption within the West Midlands force's disbanded serious crime squad. The source said a new chief constable would not be embroiled in an inquiry started long before he was appointed.

The decision by the police authority was taken by a panel of members appointed to shortlist applicants. They said in a statement that they had decided to readvertise the post to encourage all suitably qualified officers to put their names forward".

The authority's original intention to interview shortlisted candidates over two days early next month and then announce immediately a successor to Mr Dear has been put back by a month.

Mr Dear, aged 52, leaves the force at the end of March to become Inspector of Constabulary for the Midlands.

There were no valid claims for yesterday's £2,000 Portfolio Platinum prize. The prize money in today's competition is doubled to £4,000.

Assembly line allegations

Rushdie publishers under siege in Kensington

TIM BISHOP



A Muslim campaigner stands opposite the London headquarters of the publishers, Viking Penguin, in Kensington yesterday morning at the start of a five-day vigil to stop

the publication of Salman Rushdie's book, *The Satanic Verses*. Campaign organizers refused to condemn the death sentence on Mr Rushdie passed by the late Ayatollah

Khomeini. Speaking at the Islamic Cultural Centre in Regent's Park, Dr Ali Mugham Ghani, chairman of the UK action committee on Islamic affairs, said: "The insult

to the Muslim community is unparalleled." He added that the committee had urged Muslims to keep their protest within the law, but if someone went beyond the law, "we

would not condone it, we would not condemn it". Muslims from Cardiff, Birmingham, Bradford, Glasgow, Leicester and London took part in the protest.

Husband accused of slaughtering family

By Ruth Gledhill

A spurned husband murdered his wife and her parents after she left him to escape his repeated beatings, a jury was told yesterday.

Only the family pet, an alsatian bitch called Cindy, survived the

murder of three on April 7 last year.

Mr Rene Hillebrand, aged 21, an unemployed Dutchman, denies the three murders on April 7 last year.

Mr Hillebrand, aged 21, was furious because his wife Dawn, aged 25, had left the Netherlands to live with her parents in south-east London, the Central Criminal court was told.

Mr Graham Boal, for the prosecution, said Mr Hillebrand had warned his wife's relatives: "Marriage is until death us do part." Mr Hillebrand was

found dead with nine stab wounds under a duvet in the spare room by Mrs Nicola Eaves, her younger sister.

The bodies of their parents, Mr Alan Sturgeon, aged 50, a Thames Water employee, and his wife Margaret, aged 49, an auxiliary nurse, were found beneath another duvet between the beds in the same room. They also had multiple stab wounds.

They were last seen alive at 10.15pm the night before as they walked the dog near the bungalow in Whitehall Lane, Slade Green, Ealing.

Mr Boal said that while they were out Mr Hillebrand, who had already bought the murder knife and an imitation pistol, slipped into their home. Mrs Eaves and her husband

Michael called the next day. Mr Boal said: "After letting herself in with her own key and taking in four bottles of milk she had found on the doorstep, Nicola went into the spare room which was used by Dawn.

"It was dark. The curtains were drawn and as she looked to her left she saw a quilt or duvet beside the beds.

"Protruding from the bottom of the duvet were a pair of legs. She realized she was looking at her sister."

She ran outside, calling for her husband, who went back into the spare room and found the other bodies. Mrs Sturgeon had been put on top of her dead husband. Mr Boal said the killer had cleaned the house after dragging the bodies into the spare

room. "Their shoes had been lined up against a wall in the room. One pair was heavily bloodstained."

The killer had opened drawers and stolen jewellery to make the crime look like a burglary. There was no sign of a forced entry, however.

Mr Hillebrand had married in August 1987 after meeting her husband while working at an Israeli kibbutz. Mr Hillebrand, of Postojna, Slovenia, was arrested two days after the murders as he was about to return home from Catwick Airport.

A bandage covered a deep cut to his right palm. "Who am I supposed to have murdered?" he was alleged to have said.

The trial continues today.

West Midlands readvertises top police post

By Craig Seton and Stewart Tendler

The West Midlands police authority decided yesterday to readvertise the £55,600-a-year post of chief constable after only four candidates put their names forward for what is regarded as one of the top jobs in British policing.

The Labour-controlled authority has also dropped the condition it originally imposed that applicants must be either serving chief constables or officers of a similar senior rank within the Metropolitan Police, which would usually be the level of assistant commissioner or acting assistant commissioner.

Some posts, however, do encourage big numbers of applicants. The post of chief constable of the Royal Ulster Constabulary drew more than 300 applicants last year before a London officer was chosen for the job.

Dear, are Mr David O'Dowd, Chief Constable of Northamptonshire, Mr Michael Hirst, Chief Constable of Leicestershire, Mr Ian Oliver, Chief Constable of Central in Scotland, and Mr John Newing, a Deputy Assistant Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police, who has been working at the Home Office.

However, sources within the force of 7,000 officers said yesterday that four new chief constables would not be embroiled in an inquiry started long before he was appointed.

The decision by the police authority was taken by a panel of members appointed to shortlist applicants. They said in a statement that they had decided to readvertise the post to encourage all suitably qualified officers to put their names forward".

The authority's original intention to interview shortlisted candidates over two days early next month and then announce immediately a successor to Mr Dear has been put back by a month.

Mr Dear, aged 52, leaves the force at the end of March to become Inspector of Constabulary for the Midlands.

There were no valid claims for yesterday's £2,000 Portfolio Platinum prize. The prize money in today's competition is doubled to £4,000.

Clay model may identify dead girl



The photographs of a model of a dead teenage girl (left) were released by police in Cardiff yesterday in an effort to identify the victim.

Her partly-clad body was found a month ago rolled up in a carpet and buried under 18in of soil in a garden in Fitzhammon Embankment in Cardiff. Police believe it had been there for about five years.

Detectors asked Mr Richard Neave, a renowned medical artist from Manchester University, who rebuilt the face of the unknown victim of the King's Cross fire, to reconstruct the face of the girl. She was aged about 15.

Mr Neave used a cast of the dead girl's skull to work out the shape of her ears, nose and other facial features. He then constructed a clay model which has been photographed from all angles.

Television standards

BBC 'regrets' bad language

By Richard Evans, Media Editor

The BBC apologized unreservedly yesterday for the foul language used by the comedian Dave Allen during his comeback television show, screened at prime viewing time at the weekend.

The corporation said that a warning should have gone out before the programme informing viewers that some of the language might cause offence.

The comedian's use of foul language resulted in complaints to the BBC plus criticism in Parliament from backbench Tory MPs.

Mr James Moir, speaking yesterday on the BBC television programme, *Open Air*, said: "Clearly we are sorry if we have given unnecessary offence. On those occasions when this word has been used in the past on BBC Television, the programme has normally been preceded by a warning. It didn't happen on this occasion and on reflection this is a matter of regret."

Mr Robert Hayward, Conservative MP for Kingwood, Bristol, intends to raise the matter with Mr David Waddington.

dington, the Home Secretary, and has tabled a Commons question asking him to discuss the issue with the BBC.

● The BBC claimed victory last night in the annual Christmas ratings battle against ITV, helped by the three highest single audiences on Christmas Day.

The film *Crocodile Dundee* attracted the biggest audience with 21.77 million viewers, closely followed by *Only Fools and Horses* (20.12 million) and *Bread* (16.51 million), according to official figures.

The viewing bonanza helped the BBC to an overall 52.8 per cent winning share of the Christmas week audience, compared with 47.2 per cent for ITV and Channel 4.

Kidney surgeon tested Turk with £5 note, hearing told

By John Young

London in 1988 and had been paid to donate their kidneys to wealthy, private patients.

He gave his evidence as the hearing was resumed in London at which Mr Bewick, Dr Raymond Crockett, a kidney specialist whose patients received the paid-for organs, and Mr Michael Joyce, a urologist, all deny charges of involvement in the trade and of failing to ascertain whether the Turks were being paid.

Mr Sapsted said Mr Bewick had told him that the reaction of Mr Usta "of course means nothing", as anyone coming to Britain intent on selling a kidney was unlikely to admit it.

According to Mr Sapsted, Mr Bewick said that he was paid to look after them. That was Dr Crockett's job. Mr Bew

£5m target is set to reopen canal tunnel beneath Pennines

By Peter Davenport

The first steps to raise more than £5 million to repair and reopen the longest underground canal tunnel in the United Kingdom have been taken almost half a century after the last narrow boat passed along its dark and dank inner reaches.

An Act of Parliament in 1944 closed Standedge Tunnel on the Huddersfield Narrow Canal 133 years after it had opened to national celebration in a ceremony which saw 500 passengers, singing "Rule Britannia" ferried beneath the Pennine Moors. It was considered to be unsafe and redundant.

Begin in 1794, it took 17 years to complete, claimed the lives of 50 workers among the hundreds who toiled with picks, shovels and primitive gun powder to carve out the construction that was hailed as one of the great engineering feats of its day, equivalent to the modern day building of the Channel Tunnel.

Standedge Tunnel runs 3½ miles beneath the Moors, linking the village of Marsden in West Yorkshire on the Eastern shoulders of the Pennines to Diggle, near Manchester, in the west. At its deepest point it is some 600

feet below ground. Crewmen on the barges which daily passed along its route had to lay on their backs and propel their vessels by "legging" along the roof and walls of the tunnel, an operation that would take up to four hours with a fully laden boat.

The tunnel, started by the engineer Benjamin Outram and completed by Thomas Telford, became a major artery for the Industrial Revolution providing an efficient means of cross-Pennine transport that replaced the old pack mule trains.

It was never commercially viable, however, and the dawning of the railway era around the turn of the century signalled its eventual demise. Today, it is the growth of pleasure boating and the heritage-leisure industry that is bringing about its resurrection.

Although national attention may currently focus on the progress and costs of the tunnel which will link the UK to Europe, enthusiastic members of the Huddersfield Narrow Canal Society, the driving force behind the restoration programme, insist that the estimated £5.5m cost of repairing their underground

waterway is a bargain. The Society has commissioned and published the findings of two surveys on the future of the tunnel. Together they cost £300,000, with half the funds being provided through the EEC and the rest coming from three local councils along the route of the canal, the Society itself and the Yorkshire Sports Council.

One of the studies looked at the amount of work required to make the tunnel safe again for public navigation and was carried out by the leading firm of engineers, the Ove Arup partnership. They carried out a detailed survey along the entire length of the tunnel and concluded that it could be repaired and made safe at a cost of £5.5m within three years.

The report concluded: "The Standedge tunnel is a major heritage structure and a monument to the Industrial Revolution where men toiled to create one of Britain's most significant engineering achievements."

Mr Glyn Walton, the engineer in charge of the survey, said that 60 per cent of the tunnel was lined in brick or stone and was "in remarkably good condition."

School launches space business

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

A secondary school in Kent is launching a commercial venture to pay for the largest privately funded astronomy and space observatory open to the public in the United Kingdom.

The enterprise, conceived at Canterbury High School, exploits holograms, especially made for the school, of the lunar rocks that the American astronaut Colonel James Irwin brought back to earth in July 1971 after the Apollo 15 space mission. The rocks are part of the collection that the US National Aeronautics and Space Administration (Nasa) keeps sealed in nitrogen-filled cabinets at its mission control

and astronaut training centre in Houston, Texas. The set of three-dimensional images were made last year by Sky Holographics, a specialist firm in laser technology at Tumbridge Wells, under an arrangement with Nasa, for a school project to mark the twentieth anniversary of the first moon landing.

The school has formed a company to sell copies of the holograms to schools and educational establishments in Britain and abroad.

Mr David Platts, a senior teacher, said the company, run by pupils and teachers, was established with help from the Department of Trade and

Industry. The money would help raise £20,000 to pay for the building and operation of an observatory and a 14in computer-controlled telescope, which is almost complete, in the grounds of the school.

It is scheduled for a formal opening next week by Colonel Irwin, who is in Canterbury to give a lecture on space exploration.

The creation of the observatory was directed by Mr Norman Walker, a professional astronomer formerly with the Royal Greenwich Observatory.

The observatory marks a further step in the use of space for education.

Jez Taylor, the artist, working on an interpretation of Lord Leighton's "The Syracusan Bride leading the Wild Beasts to the Temple of Diana", a series of 19 panels in a 100ft colonnade at the £20 million Bath Spa Hotel, which opens on January 29 after being converted from an 1835 manor house. Mr Taylor, aged 38, of Cornwall, is taking 10 weeks to complete the work.

Aircraft crash research

Flying much safer than road travel

By Harvey Elliott, Air Correspondent

More people died on British roads in the first three months of last year than were killed in air crashes throughout the world during the whole year.

In spite of the deaths of 47 when a British Midland Boeing 737-400 crashed on the M1 last January, last year proved to be an average one for accidents involving big commercial aircraft, with 17 "full losses" and just over 800 deaths. That compared with 1,178 deaths on British roads in the first quarter of last year.

Slightly more people died in air crashes last year than the average annual figure for the past 30 years. However, the number of flights increased dramatically, decreasing the trend. American safety specialists believe that there will be more

crashes as the number of flights increases. If aircraft continue to be lost at the present rate of 1.4 for every million departures, there would be 19 crashes this year, 21 in 1995 and 25 in 2000. Enormous effort is being made, therefore, to improve the safety record.

It has been calculated that about 70 per

cent of fatal accidents in the past 30 years

were caused to some extent by pilot error.

Most airlines and manufacturers

employ "human factor" specialists, such

as psychologists and ergonomics experts,

to study the way pilots react to cockpit

layouts, to each other and to sudden

pressures caused by in-flight failures.

Many are calling for pilots to sit an

examination on human factors before

being granted a licence. The latest confidential report by the Royal Air Force's Institute of Aviation Medicine gives a number of examples of pilots who made mistakes either because the co-pilots would not challenge a decision taken by more experienced captains or of captains who refuse to believe juniors when errors are pointed out to them.

The Confidential Human Factors Incident Reporting Programme (Chirp) said in the report: "Events that seem almost incredible when written down in black and white do happen. The problem is that pilots don't stop being people when they get on to the flight deck; they take with them the bits of pride and prejudice that we all carry about in life."

Barnardos receives donations from 1939

Barnardo's, the children's charity, has received three cheques sent in 1939 (Robin Young writes).

The cheques, posted by British expatriates in Shanghai, were intercepted by the Germans during the Second World War, held for years at the German Institute in Stuttgart, and then seized by the Americans. They were recently returned to the German federal archives and forwarded to Britain.

The cheques are for 10 shillings from Mr and Mrs L.C.M. Pemberton of the Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China; for £1 from Mr L.H. Lowford of the Custom House, Shanghai; and for £5 from Mr H. Macphail of Jardine Matheson. The banks involved say they will honour the cheques at their present value. The £1 cheque would be worth about £19 today.

Officers bailed

Four members of the disbanded West Midlands Serious Crime Squad were remanded on unconditional bail by Birmingham magistrates yesterday. Det Inspector Terence Mills, Det Constable Michael Quinn, and Det Sergeants David Ford and Anthony Ball are charged with perjury and attempting to pervert the course of justice.

Hoax charge

Colin Goodwin, aged 17, of Dunshaughlin, Co Meath, was bailed by Dublin district court on a charge of making a hoax bomb threat to American Delta Airlines.

Case dropped

Mr Ronald Smith, aged 30, of Stafford, has been cleared of careless driving after the suicide of John Heddle, MP, who was due to give evidence at his trial. The Crown Prosecution Service withdrew the charge.

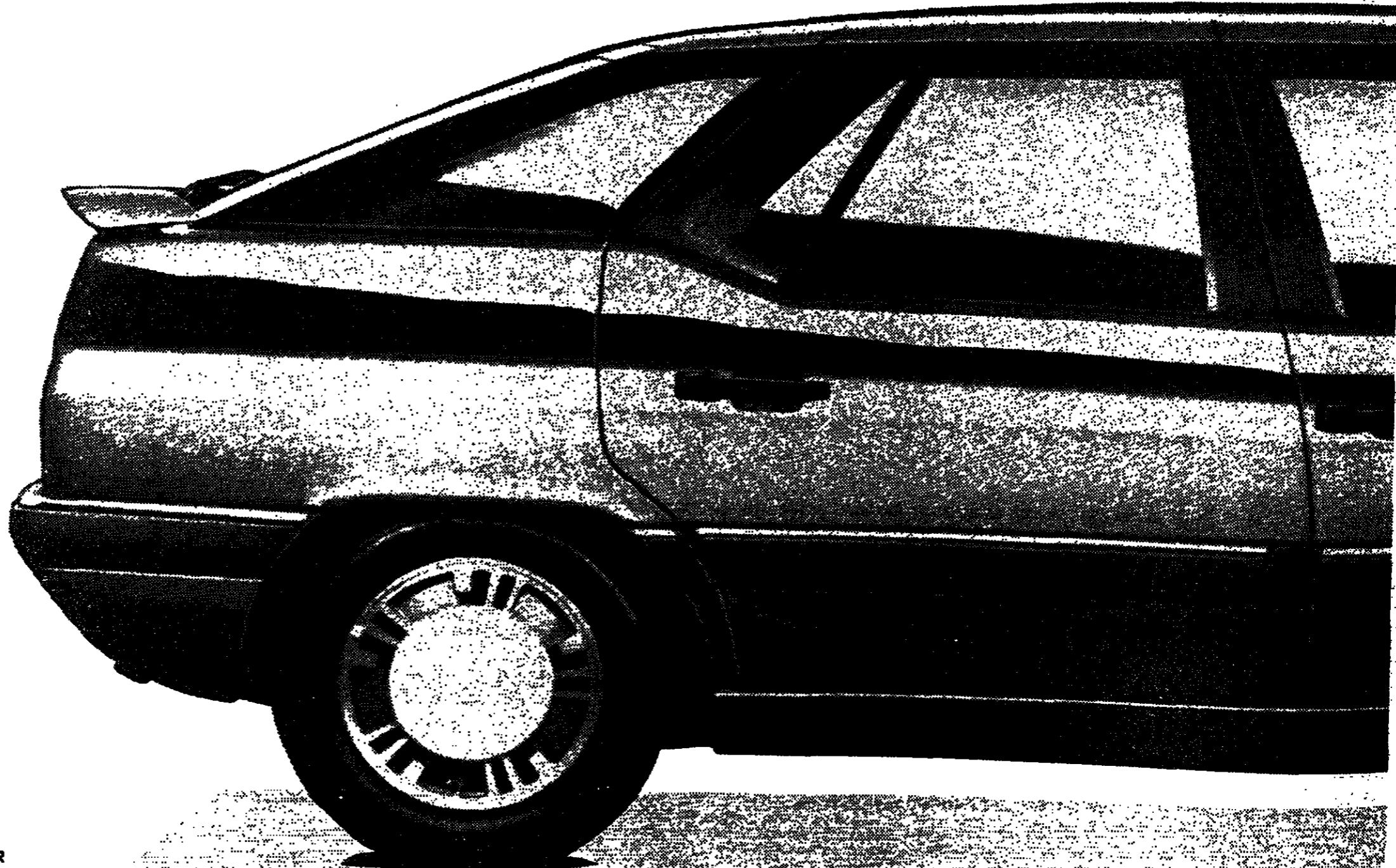
Paper jobs cut

Ninety workers are to be made redundant at the Scott Paper Mill at Barrow, Cumbria.

Science chief

Sir Mark Richmond, FRS, aged 58, vice-chancellor and professor of molecular biology at Manchester University, has been made chairman of the Science and Engineering Research Council.

THE CITROËN XM. EUROPEAN



CAR OF THE YEAR
1990

CAR FEATURED: TOP OF THE RANGE 3 LITRE V6 SE: £23,000 PRICES START FROM £13,700 FOR THE 2 LITRE. PRICES CORRECT AT TIME OF GOING TO PRESS AND INCLUDE CAR TAX AND VAT DELIVERY AND NUMBER PLATES EXTRA. ALL MODELS RUN ON UNLEADED PETROL. ALL V6 MODELS ARE FITTED WITH A CATALYTIC CONVERTER. FOR MORE

هذه من الأصل

Tax incentive demanded to reduce car pollution

By Kevin Eason, Motoring Correspondent

Pressure is growing on the Government to offer tax incentives to "green" motorists in its March Budget in spite of fears that cars converted to cleaner unleaded fuel could suffer costly damage.

Engineers and company car fleet managers are warning motorists who join the rush towards converting their cars or buying expensive clean-up equipment without proper safeguards that they could be heading for trouble.

Environmentalists want Britain to raise the speed of the drive against vehicle pollution by following the lead of the West German Government, which is offering tax rebates of up to £390 for motorists who buy cars with

Propane is being tested as a refrigerator coolant offering a cheap and environmentally-friendly alternative to ozone-damaging chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs). Researchers at the South Bank Polytechnic, London, claim the flammable, liquid gas is a viable substitute for CFCs and can be harvested in a hazard-free manner. Propane's potential as a coolant has long been known but it has never been exploited in domestic refrigerators.

catalytic converters. Motorists who fit older cars with the equipment also qualify. The German regulations anticipate EC legislation that comes into force in 1992 and which will demand that all new cars are fitted with catalytic converters. These soak up 90 per cent of an engine's noxious emissions. The rebate is offered in an effort to cut pollution by 30 per cent.

The environmental group Friends of the Earth said: "There is no reason why Britain should be standing still. If the market does not move quickly enough, like the Germans we could encourage motorists to buy cleaner cars ahead of the EC legislation by helping with the cost."

Yet the demand to force the

Home of the Once and Future King restored by farmer



The secrets of Pendragon Castle (above), where King Arthur is said to have been born and brought up, are being uncovered during careful repair work. Mr Raven Frankland, a

farmer in Ravenstosdale, Cumbria, has almost completed the painstaking consolidation of the ruins of the castle built in the 12th century by Hugh de Morville, one of the

conspirators who murdered Thomas à Becket (Robin Young writes). Mr Frankland, who bought the castle for £525 in 1963, has been repairing the crumbling walls and towers. He has

dragged out fallen masonry to reach the floor of the castle, exposing vanished chambers and spiral staircases. Legend has it that the original castle was built by Uther Pendragon,

Arthur's father, who tried to divert the river Eden to form a moat, giving rise to the local rhyme: "Let Uther Pendragon do as he can, The river Eden will run as it ran."

Bridge death falls

Council's failure to act is criticized

By Peter Davenport

A coroner criticized a council

yesterday for refusing to spend money on making safe a bridge which has claimed more than 40 lives in the last

two decades.

Mr Michael Oakley was

speaking at the opening of the

inquest on the two latest

victims of the 80ft high Valley

Bridge in Scarborough.

Mr Geoff Cobley, managing

director, is demanding that

manufacturers attach mileage

guarantees to the converters.

More than 300 chemical

workers are being laid off

because of the uptake of

unleaded petrol. Associated

Ocet, at Ellesmere Port,

Cheshire, produces the fuel

additive that injects lead into

four-star petrol, but the

company said that a drop in

demand meant that job losses

were necessary.

celebrations for her seventh

birthday.

The coroner criticized Scar-

borough Borough Council for

the lack of safety measures on

the bridge. He said he had

been concerned for some time

at the ease with which people

could get on to the bridge and

fall from it.

Mr Oakley said he had

written to the council after two

people died at the bridge last

year.

"I find it extraordinary that

the council currently maintain

that public money will not be

well spent on the bridge even

if only one life was saved."

He said that was a direct

quotation from a letter he had

received from the council. He

added: "One life, in my mind,

is more precious than limitless

lives."

Mr Oakley said the tragedy

happened in different circum-

stances from another incident

at the bridge a few days earlier

when a girl died during

public coffers." The coroner

said he hoped the latest trag-

edy would make the council

think again and erect guard

rails on the bridge.

Mr Jeffery and the mother

of his daughter, Miss Debra

Wilkinson, of Whity Road,

Clayton, Scarborough, had

lived together until their

engagement broke up a year

ago. Mr Jeffery, of Queen's

Terrace, Scarborough, looked

after his daughter each

weekend.

Mr John Treble, the chief

executive of Scarborough

council, responded yesterday

to the coroner's comments by

saying: "The matter has

previously been fully debated

and it certainly has not been a

question of cost acting as the

overriding determinant of the

council."

While it was true that the parapets on the bridge

were low and there had been

proposals to double their

height, it would still be per-

fectly feasible for a deter-

mined person to scale them.

The council rejected an

£80,000 scheme to raise the

height of the parapets last

September. Mr Treble said:

"Every death is a tragedy and

this is a situation which is

almost impossible to provide

answers for."

British Telecom has turned

down an appeal from the local

Samaritans group, who

wanted a telephone helpline to

be provided at the bridge. It

said such a telephone would

be regularly vandalized.

The inquest was adjourned

until a date to be fixed later.

Relics of early polar exploration for sale

Photographs and other memo-

abilia vividly evoking the

perilous early days of polar

exploration in the 1920s are

expected to make a total of

£15,000 at Christie's, South

Kensington, on February 8.

The material documents the

flights of Roald Amundsen,

the Norwegian explorer, and

Lincoln Ellsworth, the Ameri-

can, in 1925-6. Both men

nearly lost their lives during

the first unsuccessful flight to

reach the North Pole in Dor-

nier flying boats in 1925 and

were forced to land on an ice

flow 136 miles from their

destination.

Among highlights will be a

specially made board game

with instructions that it be

played over the Pole (estimate

£5,000 to £8,000).

Amundsen discovered the

South Pole in 1911 and and

Hendon, on September 15.

had earlier navigated the

North-west Passage. He dis-

appeared on a flight to rescue

an Italian explorer returning

from the North Pole in 1928.

Ellsworth was born in 1880.

After his Polar success, he

undertook a trans-arctic sub-

SALE ROOM

John Shaw

marine expedition in 1931 and

flew 2,300 miles across the

Antarctic in 1935.

A group of medals including

the DFM and Bar won by

Squadron Leader "Ginger"

Lacey, one of the most

successful pilots in the Battle

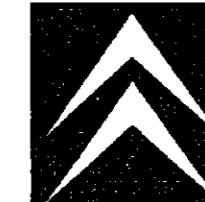
of Britain, who died last May,

will be sold by Sotheby's at the

Royal Air Force Museum,

Hendon, on September 15.

CAR OF THE YEAR, 1990.



The Community Charge.

How some disabled people can pay less.

From April the Community Charge will replace the domestic rates.

Almost everyone aged 18 or over will have to register and pay.

But not every disabled person will have to pay the full amount.

Community Charge Benefit could reduce their bill.

If you're now on Housing Benefit most Councils will work out what you can get without your needing to make a separate claim. (Check your bill when you get it.)

If you're on Income Support, but not Housing Benefit, you should have received a claim form from the D.S.S.

Others on low incomes might get help too.

Anyone who thinks they need to claim Community Charge Benefit should send off the coupon for a claim form.

And for some disabled people help will be provided through Transitional Relief. Claim forms are available by filling in this coupon.

To get a lower bill from the start it's important you claim now.

THE COMMUNITY CHARGE. HOW TO PAY LESS.

NOW

Please send claim form(s) for a reduced Community Charge bill to:

Name _____
Address _____

P.Code _____

Tick if you are getting: Housing Benefit Income Support

Send or take this coupon to your local borough, district or City council*. Mark the envelope "Community Charge Reductions".

TB

MARCH

Councils set
Community Charges.
Bills coming soon.

APRIL

Have you
checked your
benefit entitlement
on your bill?

*IF YOU DON'T KNOW THE ADDRESS OF YOUR LOCAL COUNCIL, LOOK IN THE PHONE BOOK OR ASK AT A LIBRARY OR CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU.

ISSUED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT THIS INFORMATION APPLIES TO ENGLAND. SIMILAR BENEFIT ARRANGEMENTS APPLY IN SCOTLAND AND WALES BUT ARRANGEMENTS FOR TRANSITIONAL RELIEF DIFFER IN WALES

El Salvador President admits Army killed priests

From Charles Bremner, New York, and Susan Elliott, Washington

Members of the military committed the massacre of six leading Jesuit priests in El Salvador last November, President Cristiani has announced.

The killings of Father Ignacio Ellacuria, director of the country's top university, and his colleagues in the midst of a guerrilla offensive were widely believed to have been the work of a right-wing death squad linked to the military.

They provoked an international outcry and brought heavy pressure on Señor Cristiani's American-backed administration to track down the culprits.

After an investigation assisted by US experts and, since last week, by detectives from Scotland Yard, Señor Cristiani said a judicial commission had "determined that there was involvement of some elements of the armed forces".

The announcement by Señor Cristiani looks set to dampen expected calls from Congress in the approaching new session for an end to US military aid to the country.

Congressional leaders and human rights groups welcomed the statement as a crucial step towards democracy in El Salvador but emphasized they would reserve full praise until the implicated military members had been tried.

"We have not been impressed with the effectiveness of the justice system in El Salvador and this will be a real test of it," said Mr Lee Hamilton, a member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee.

Members of the Democratic Congress had threatened to press for the aid to be cut unless Señor Cristiani made

progress on bringing to justice those responsible for the killings last November before the start of the new session on January 23. Washington provides El Salvador with aid worth \$1 million (£610,000) a day.

The executive director of a human rights group also welcomed the announcement but was concerned whether soldiers would ever be brought to justice.

"This is a landmark development in El Salvador," said Mr Aryeh Neier, the executive director of Human Rights Watch. "It's exceptionally encouraging that the Salvadoran Government itself is willing to acknowledge the responsibility of its own armed forces for the killings."

Colonel Rene Emilio Ponce, a senior staff officer, said two officers and 45 soldiers of the Atlacal battalion had been recalled to the capital and restricted to barracks for questioning, but he gave no further details.

The Atlacal battalion is a black-uniformed commando-type unit trained by the Americans in the techniques of guerrilla war. It led much of the counter-offensive against the guerrilla forces of the Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front which attacked San Salvador and other cities in November.

The Salvadoran military has long been held to be closely involved in the death squads which in the early 1980s massacred tens of thousands of citizens whom they suspected of sympathizing with the left-wing opposition movement.

Pressure from the US has curbed their excesses in recent years, but no officer has been convicted of a rights crime.

Defrocked minister held over sacrificial murders



Mr Jeffrey Lundgren, the defrocked minister accused of the ritual murders, being taken to the San Diego County Jail. His wife and their son were also held.



An arsenal of weapons was found in the motel room of the Lundgrens, left. The bodies of the Avery family, right, were discovered in an Ohio barn last week.

Cult feud theory in slaughter of family

From Charles Bremner
New York

A defrocked minister and his wife and son were yesterday charged in Ohio with the murders of a family of five in what police alleged was a sacrificial ritual linked to a feud between rival religious sects.

Mr Jeffrey Lundgren, his wife Alice and their son Damon, aged 19, were tracked down to a motel near San Diego as they attempted to lead a small band of followers across the border into the "wilderness" in Mexico.

A national manhunt was launched for Mr Lundgren after police found the bodies of Dennis Avery, his wife, and their three daughters in an Ohio barn last week. Police said the Avery's had been shot in a sacrificial ritual last April before the cult members set off to be "cleansed" in the wilderness, where they intended to search for a holy "golden sword".

Mr Lundgren broke away from the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, an offshoot of the Mormon Church, three years ago and founded a small sect with about 30 adherents.

Last year he declared himself a prophet as his followers accumulated weapons in preparation for what police claimed was an attack on the Reorganized Church.

A girl, aged 14, whose mother belonged to the cult, said that, among other targets, the group had planned an attack on the Kirtland Historic Temple, a church.

Ten other church followers have also been charged.

The Lundgren sect was one of a string of bizarre cults to spring up in recent years after a period of relative quiet since the mystical and quasi-religious groups of the late 1960s and 1970s, whose leaders included Charles Manson.

Bush seeks to soothe Latin American leaders

From Charles Bremner
New York

The United States yesterday sought to defuse its quarrel with Colombia over an anti-drug patrol by American warships. The dispute illustrates the indignation in Latin America over the invasion of Panama.

However popular it was in the US and among middle-class Panamanians, the American invasion has once again unleashed the spectre of the bullying *yanqui*, a feared and hated stereotype which has deep roots in Latin-American history.

At the weekend senior White House officials began a campaign to soothe raw nerves throughout the region. Mr Lawrence Eagleburger, the Deputy Secretary of State, for example, assured Nicaragua that it was "highly unlikely" to be invaded by American forces as Panama was.

Colombia balked at the US naval operation, which was planned some time ago, after local opposition groups depicted it as a blockade reminiscent of past US actions – the 1913 operation that led to the

creation of Panama out of Colombian territory, for instance.

President Bush last Friday acknowledged the damage the Panama invasion has inflicted on ties in the region, but said he wanted local leaders to understand that it was not a return to gunboat diplomacy.

But local anger has hardly been assuaged by the news that Mr Bush

Washington (Reuters) – The Rev Jesse Jackson, the US politician, alleged yesterday that the United States had killed at least 1,200 Panamanian civilians last month, saying this was more people than the Chinese Government had killed in Tiananmen Square.

has chosen Vice-President Dan Quayle as his fence-mending emissary later this month.

Amid their euphoria over capturing General Noriega, Administration officials are making light of the condemnation that "Operation Just Cause" has provoked from Latin-American states. A Bush aide said on television that "they've got to

make a fuss, but privately they're behind us". This view is, however, being challenged by many American experts and Latin-American officials, who see it as more like a brash stunt aimed at bolstering Mr Bush's standing in public opinion at home than a daring rescue of democracy.

Newspapers around the region have noted that, according to US drug experts, General Noriega ceased two years ago to play any important role in the flow of cocaine into North America, and that the operation of the Panama Canal had never been disrupted until after the invasion.

The American diplomats who now face the task of soothing Latin-American pride, have been angered by what they see as the gratuitously offensive tactics employed by the invading US Army, including the initial indiscriminate bombing which cost the lives of several hundred Panamanian civilians.

It emerged at the weekend that Colombia has revoked its decision to allow the Americans to instal

radar stations on its territory to track drug planes. The Colombians fear that the US might use the Panama operation as a precedent to pursue suspected traffickers.

The invasion has clearly set back co-operation in the drug war. It has also cast doubt on next month's planned drug summit in Colombia.

But, politically, the most immediate damage may have been in Nicaragua, where next month's elections will mark the culmination of years of American and international pressure on the Sandinista leadership to test its legitimacy through the ballot box.

The images of thousands of tall white gringo soldiers killing Panamanian citizens have proved a godsend for President Ortega and his Government because they live up to all the worst caricatures of *yanqui* imperialism, and have given a timely boost to the Sandinista effort to depict the opposition as just so many US-financed stooges.

In Nicaragua and all around the region, commentators have been pointing out the apparent double

standards under which Washington invaded one country, claiming the death of a single US citizen as justification, while it has continued to finance rebel forces who have killed several of its citizens in Nicaragua.

But, while some American diplomats are agonizing over the aftermath, Administration officials are taking a hard-line view, arguing that the US can probably afford to ignore the emotions of Latin Americans now that the East-West contest has all but evaporated from the ballot box.

Although US indifference may be valid in South and Central America, a region crippled by permanent economic crisis and heavily dependent on US benevolence, however, it may prove dangerous when applied to Mexico. President Salinas had done more in two years to mend fences with Washington than any Mexican President for decades, but with anti-US public feeling now running high, he will be obliged to keep some patriotic distance from the *yanquis*.

WORLD ROUNDUP

Rocket attack on prince's home

Tokyo (Reuters) – Home-made rockets were fired last night towards the residence of Prince Hitachi, the younger brother of Emperor Akihito, in what appeared to be left-wing attack against the Imperial Family, police said. They said no damage or injuries were reported. At least two spent rockets were found, one on a road and another in a garden of a house a few hundred yards away. It is thought that the rockets were launched from a car parked on vacant ground several hundred yards away.

A similar incident occurred at the same time in Kyoto in western Japan, the police said. Again, no damage or injuries were reported. Earlier yesterday Mr Toshiki Kaifu, the Japanese Prime Minister, named a government committee to prepare for Emperor Akihito's formal accession in November this year.

Abu Nidal sidelined

The extremist Abu Nidal organization has been effectively put out of business, Palestinian sources in Tripoli – the group's home base – claimed yesterday (Michael Evans writes). Since last month, Abu Nidal, whose real name is Sabri Khalil al-Bannaz, has been under *de facto* house arrest in the Libyan capital of Tripoli. Yesterday it was said that leading figures in the group had been thrown out of their offices and banned from entering their training camp. Colonel Gadhafi, the Libyan leader, has been forced to move against Abu Nidal in order to gain favour with the other Arab states, in particular Egypt. Colonel Gadhafi has also indicated that he wants better relations with the United States and Britain.

Kidnappers' named

Jerusalem – The United States knows the identity of the Arab kidnappers of Colonel William Higgins, the US officer serving with United Nations forces in Lebanon who was allegedly murdered last August in retaliation for Israel's abduction of a Hezbollah leader, *Haaretz*, an Israeli newspaper, claimed yesterday (Richard Owen writes). According to the report, Colonel Higgins was taken by two Hezbollah gunmen, named as Mohammed Rihal and Mustafa Marwi, to a Hezbollah camp near Beirut called Arak-Kra's, where he was interrogated and tortured.

Police abuse alleged

Safeguards against torture and ill-treatment in police custody are inadequate in Austria, Amnesty International says in a report published today (Michael Knipe writes). The human rights organization says it has received reports of 128 separate incidents of alleged abuse involving 201 people in the past four years. The allegations of ill-treatment range from slaps to the head to near suffocation and burnings with lighted cigarettes. The organization urged Austria, which has ratified the United Nations Convention Against Torture, to put the convention's provisions into practice.

UK ship in Argentina

Buenos Aires (Reuters) – The first British merchant ship to visit Argentina since the 1982 Falklands War weighed anchor yesterday with a cargo of refrigerated meat and fruit, wool and leather. The Churchill, a container vessel, had unloaded machinery, steel goods and 12 passengers on Sunday. The ship's arrival followed agreements Britain and Argentina signed in October to scrap restrictions on trade and transport. Last week Britain lifted restrictions against Argentine ships, permitting them to enter the 150-mile military protection zone around the Falkland Islands.

Ski resorts feel pinch

Paris – With many French ski slopes still without the faintest covering of snow, the beleaguered winter sports trade is demanding prompt government action to avert financial disaster (Philip Jacobson writes). The industry, suffering a delayed start for the third consecutive year, has been told that M Olivier Sturm, the Minister for Tourism, is considering requests to declare particularly hard-hit resorts such as the Haute-Savoie and Hautes-Pyrénées regions, zones of natural disaster, enabling holiday concerns to claim the cost of paying employees on their insurance policies.

Crowe supports US cuts

From Martin Fletcher, Washington

Washington's refusal to negotiate naval cuts or the elimination of tactical nuclear weapons from surface ships was publicly questioned yesterday by the man who led the US military until his retirement last September.

"If some naval reductions can get us more than they are worth, we ought to be willing to consider talking (with the Soviet Union)," Admiral William Crowe, the former chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said in an interview.

There should not be "anything sacrosanct" as long as the US was willing to say no if it did not get what it wants, he

told the *The Washington Post*. Admiral Crowe's position contrasts starkly with that of the White House and the Pentagon, which argue that limiting US naval strength would jeopardize the security of far-flung allies.

At the Malta summit in December, President Bush refused to discuss either naval arms constraints in general or President Gorbachov's specific proposal that the superpowers should eliminate tactical nuclear weapons from their ships.

However, that proposal has clearly sparked a public debate.

Admiral Crowe suggested

Japan set to lift sanctions

From Joe Joseph, Tokyo

Mr Toshiki Kaifu, the Japanese Prime Minister, will tell Western allies in freezing aid, but it now fears that ties with China will shiver completely if dealings are not revived soon.

Japan feels that China has suffered enough, and Mr Kaifu will be trying to explain to Mrs Thatcher, the Prime Minister, and other European leaders his motives for *rapport*.

Japanese officials fear that China's economy is in danger. But it also fears that Washington's more conciliatory attitude towards China, highlighted by the visits of Mr Brent Scowcroft, the US National Security Adviser, to Peking last year, has left Japan exposed to criticism

from China for adhering to the sanctions.

According to a report in the *Mainichi Shimbun*, a leading Japanese daily, Tokyo will resume talks soon on a six-year loan to China of 810 billion yen (£3.2 billion).

The newspaper quoted Mr Kaifu as telling government officials: "If the sanctions continue beyond this point and China becomes isolated, this may bring about instability."

• PEKING: A Chinese central-bank official said yesterday the World Bank was studying resuming loans to China, suspended after the June crackdown, and credits could be restored soon.

Shuttle mission to retrieve satellite is delayed

From Martin Fletcher, Washington

Nasa will make another attempt today to launch the most ambitious space shuttle flight since the Challenger disaster, after low clouds forced a last-minute postponement yesterday.

The prime objective of the 10-day mission is to retrieve from space a six-year-old bus-sized satellite which is said to be a "treasure trove" of scientific and technological information vital to the construction of spacecraft. If not rescued, the satellite will begin falling to earth in March and will break up on re-entry. It is now 200 miles from earth and falling at a rate of half a mile a day.

The mission will also equal the longest shuttle flight as Nasa works towards 16-day and ultimately 28-day mis-

sions that would greatly expand the shuttle's usefulness. The launch was originally scheduled for December 18, but was postponed three times due to delays in overhauling the launch pad at the Kennedy Space Centre in Florida.

The five-man crew in the shuttle Columbia were within six minutes of blasting off early yesterday morning, and 524,000 gallons of liquid hydrogen and oxygen had been pumped into its tanks, before the launch was aborted.

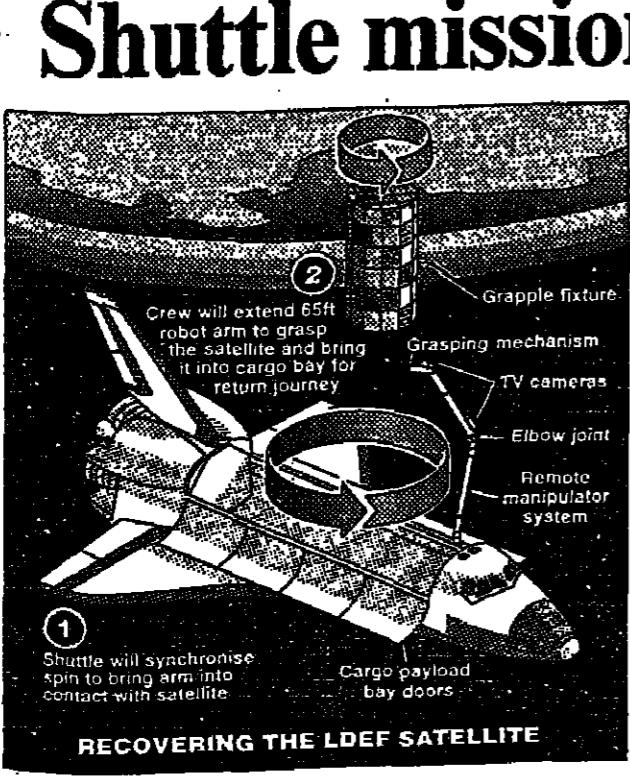
On the second day of the mission, Columbia will put a US Navy communications satellite into orbit, and on the fourth day, using a 65-foot mechanical arm, it will attempt to seize the failing 30-foot-long satellite and haul it into its cargo bay. The sat-

ellite, known as the Long Duration Exposure Facility, which weighs more than 10 tons, will push up the shuttle's landing weight to 229,500lb, 10,000lb more than for any previous landing.

The satellite was put into orbit in April 1984, packed with 57 experiments and designed to test the performance of various materials when exposed to radiation and extreme temperatures.

It was due to be retrieved after a year, but was stranded by shuttle flight scheduling problems and the 1986 Challenger disaster.

"We just can't place too much importance on this flight. That vehicle is invaluable because it's chock full of every material we use on space flight," Mr Al Pennington, a



Ceausescu diehards rally to standard of feckless playboy

From Roger Boyes
Sibiu, Romania

"Kill the traitors! Fight for your homeland!" read the Securitate leaflets dropped from the low, red Transylvanian gables of Sibiu. But most were tramped into the slush by the morning. There was gunfire too, just audible above the band at the Imparator Romanilor Hotel.

How many Securitate men are at large?

Nobody in the revolutionary leadership is certain, but it is plain that Sibiu is where they are staying a last, bitter fight. In Bucharest, there are nervous shots at midnight; in Sibiu, once the provincial seat of Nicu Ceausescu, son of the dictator, there is still organized, if thinly spread resistance.

Securitate snipers have crippled night life and, according to some reports, they have seized people who have "collaborated" with the local revolutionary administration.

The Army estimates that about 300 died in the Sibiu uprising and another 300 were injured. Colonel Victor Negru, of the infantry school, says that the arrested Securitate men were taken to his barracks and confined in an emptied swimming pool. "They were

easier to guard that way," he said. "Now they will face military tribunals and be given the appropriate sentences."

The Securitate have been grouping around Sibiu because of Nicu Ceausescu. When his father decided to give him political experience, he was first made chief of the Young Communist League, then promoted to First Secretary of Sibiu, a fortified Transylvanian township.

The Securitate units were strengthened, both as a bodyguard for the "crown prince", and as a command centre less

● Officials fear that desperate agents will shoot their way in to try to rescue Nicu ●

the Hungarian and German minorities of Transylvania got out of hand. Nicu, the most reckless of the clan, is now a rallying point for the Securitate resistance. He was stabbed shortly after his arrest and is now under guard in the Bucharest military hospital.

It is feared that Securitate agents will shoot their way in and rescue the wounded playboy. Only five of the

Ceausescu clan, all distant relatives, are still free.

Nicu Ceausescu's arrest was wholly in character: an elegant woman in a fur coat was stopped on the way to Bucharest's domestic airport. There was a gust of Chanel No 5 as she opened her window. The man on the back seat, had pulled over his face, was her lover, she told the soldiers: nobody important. But Nicu was recognized and roughly seized.

Nicu preferred the metropolitan pleasures of Bucharest to Sibiu — which boasts only two acceptable restaurants — but he made himself comfortable. His former office is now full of slightly blase boys with automatic rifles.

It is the only place in town that did not have a portrait of his father. Instead, in the drawers, there is the boyish clutter of a man of 39 who never grew up: football pennants, a girl's pants, a collapsible lung-fit stick favoured by Bruce Lee.

His Sibiu villa is more revealing. There is a separate guest house for his girlfriends from Bucharest. Roaming the gardens are Alsatian dogs that used to be fed with Sibiu-salami, a Romanian delicacy almost unobtainable in the shops. There is also a swimming pool, two satellite antennae — he liked to watch international sports programmes on Sky — a library of videos and a cellar

of wine. Broken glass crackles underfoot, the video recorder has been removed (they fetch 15,000 lei on the Sibiu black market — \$2,000 at the official rate of exchange), but there has been surprisingly little looting.

The army commander smokes a Kent cigarette but continues to keep a finger on his trigger as 1 plough through the cupboards. Silk pyjamas, dozens of hats — Nicu's hairline is receding — leather boots, and German hunting rifles.

The furnishing, in common with all the Ceausescu villas, is not so much bad taste, as no-taste. Plainly, the Ceausescu simply gave their estate managers broad guidelines and the hapless couriers did what they could.

Various "luxury furnishing" companies in Austria and elsewhere were contacted by telex and lorries brought the supplies. If the result was a bit heavy on mahogany cupboards, velvet armchairs, chintz curtains and ornamental chandeliers, nobody seemed to object. It was the most expensive available, and therefore the best.

The personal touches such as Elena's golden bathroom taps and Nicu's bedroom refinements, are obvious.

Nicu is an unlikely hero, even for the most dedicated of fugitive Securitate men. The memoirs of Romania's foreign

spy chief, General Ion Pacepa, now serialized in the press, depicted him as a pampered child intent on instant gratification.

He poured whisky down the face of Mr Stefan Andrei, the former Foreign Minister, and cruised around town — whether Bucharest or Sibiu — picking up girls who did not dare to refuse. He took bribes (including some from the Orthodox Church hierarchy) as a master of course.

Is the Securitate really fighting to the death for this man? It is probably not as

● Nicu is remembered as a spoiled child who demanded instant gratification ●

simple as that. There were perhaps 20,000 full-time Securitate officers, a praetorian guard of 1,000, an anti-terrorist unit of 1,000 and up to 50,000 informers. There were factory units and Securitate men in the Army; it had seeped into every institution.

Only a few of these officers appear to be fanatical enough to fight on in the name of the Ceausescu family. But it

would take only a few to detail the revolution.

The new leadership is consolidating first in Bucharest but the threads that link it to the provinces are thin indeed. In places such as Sibiu, the sudden conversion of the Communist Party to the cause of the revolution looks less credible than in Bucharest, if only because it is less subject to control.

Only the Army is trusted absolutely. The people bring bread and wine to the tanks parked in Sibiu's main square for the heroic drivers. "The Army will not return to barracks until the last terrorist is arrested," a general said last week.

That gives the Army almost carte blanche. It is the Army, after all, which defines how many Securitate men are at large. It is said that Army counter-intelligence officers want the campaign against the Securitate to be eased. That would allow them to flush out sympathizers with the fugitive agents. As soon as Securitate men start printing leaflets, as in Sibiu, it should be possible to expose whole networks of opposition.

The gunfire rattle on sporadically throughout the night. And the time blasting out of the Sibiu hotel is an old Janis Joplin number, with the line: "Freedom is just another word for nothing left to lose".

Elena's mother abandoned as dictators fled

From Christopher Walker, Bucharest

While the dragnet continues for those few members of the hated Ceausescu clan still unaccounted for, the eldest survivor lies in the intensive care unit of a Bucharest hospital still apparently unaware that last month's revolution took place.

Yesterday I was one of the few foreign journalists permitted to visit Mrs Elena Petrescu, aged 102, the mother of Elena Ceausescu, Romania's former first lady, who was widely regarded as the evil driving force behind some of her husband's most savage excesses.

Mrs Paulina Stan, a senior nurse at the city's Emergency Hospital, said: "We have told her that her daughter has been executed and that there has been a revolution, but frankly, I am not sure she was able to take any of it in. She is senile and has now fallen into a coma as you can see. We expect her to die at any time."

Mrs Petrescu, the wife of an innkeeper, was found in her bed in the Ceausescu's opulent residence after her daughter and son-in-law fled in a helicopter in a vain attempt to escape the fury of the people. "It was typical of them that she had been completely abandoned without a nurse or anybody. Even vital medical equipment she needed was not functioning," Mrs Stan said.

When the revolutionary forces discovered the old woman alone in the deserted residence, a doctor was dispatched and she was driven to the hospital in an ambulance.

She now lies in a bed close to where some of the civilians most grotesquely wounded by Ceausescu's Securitate gunmen are recovering. A soldier with an AK-47 assault rifle sits on guard.

The Romanian authorities, apparently taken aback by foreign criticism of the brutal fashion in which the Ceausescus were dispatched, are anxious to show that Mrs Petrescu is being treated humanely despite the deep loathing felt for her by most of the 23 million Romanians.

"We are treating her just like any other patient and doing our best to keep her alive for as long as possible. But as anyone can see, she is a very old and sick woman," Mr Radu Baratu, a hospital official, said. "She would soon die in the dictator's residence if we had not found her and brought her here."

For those who have not visited Romania since last month's uprising, it is hard to imagine the depth of the revolution felt by the people for the Ceausescu clan, some 40 members of which were given various jobs and sinecures in

the old administration. For that reason, many of the patients in the hospital have not been told Mrs Petrescu's true identity.

The feeling against her daughter, likened in the Western media to a witch-like cross between Lady Macbeth and Lucrezia Borgia is everywhere to be seen in the graffiti scrawled on the walls of post-revolutionary Bucharest.

Many of the slogans say "Down with the illiterate", a reference to the claim that despite her string of titles, she never completed her secondary education.

It is impossible to find a single Romanian not delighted at her execution. Many now refer to her as "Leana" in mockery of her peasant origins. Her father is described as a ploughman turned innkeeper who ended up a drunkard like Nicu, her favourite son, one of those clan members, one now awaiting trial.

"Because Mrs Petrescu is so old and near to death, we do not need to give her any special protection," Mrs Stan said. Nobody in the hospital was prepared to discuss where

Mrs Petrescu: Unaware of her daughter's execution, she would be buried when she eventually dies.

As the daily disclosures about the Ceausescu's affluent and corrupt lifestyle have continued to fill the newly liberated Romanian media (queues for the daily papers in sub-zero temperatures far outstretch those for scarce food resources) Elena Ceausescu has emerged as even more evil than her husband.

The latest edition of the *Romanian News*, a weekly, mocked her cruelly as a "caring and sweet mother" before disclosing that she salted away millions of pounds in special bank accounts for her three children Valentin, Zoe and Nicu, whom she was grooming for the succession.

"The fact she was a woman makes her cruelty even worse and harder to bear," explained one Bucharest student.



Ruins of revolution: Romanians, dwarfed by the shell of the national library, loading their furniture on to a lorry as they leave homes destroyed by the recent fighting in Bucharest.

Hearings to be televised

From Christopher Walker, Bucharest

The interim Romanian Government yesterday began putting on public trial members of the pro-Ceausescu Securitate forces who violently opposed last month's revolution in which the dictator was overthrown.

A senior member of the ruling National Salvation Front announced that hearings had started at special tribunals in the south Transylvanian city of Sibiu. Sibiu was a stronghold of Nicu Ceausescu's favoured son Nicu, who is due to face trial once investigations into his past are complete.

In keeping with the central role the media played in the revolution, these hearings — before panels of three military officers and two civilian judges — will be televised and open to the local and foreign press. Hundreds of people accused of being Securitate agents are expected to face trial but no official estimate of the number captured has been released.

The announcement of the trials was made by Mr Aurel Munteanu, head of Romanian television and radio, who fielded strong criticism of the alleged political role being played by the 145-member National Salvation Front when he gave the first weekly press briefing on the progress of the revolution.

At one stage, his voice strained by fatigue, Mr Munteanu angrily dismissed claims by some of the seven new political parties here that the front was seeking to bolster its position in elections which he reaffirmed would take place in April. Some politicians have been urging their postponement.

The speed with which the temporary administration has launched the trials of its opponents has impressed foreign diplomats. Front leaders are believed anxious to avoid a recurrence of the allegations of summary justice that greeted the trial and execution of the Ceausescus.

Mr Munteanu emphasized that, since their executions,

Vatican pledge

Rome (Reuter) — Romania's new authorities have told the Vatican that Catholics suppressed during four decades of communism will have full freedom of worship, Ama, the Italian news agency, reported yesterday. It said Archbishop Francesco Colosimo, the Pope's special envoy to Eastern Europe, received the pledge from Mr Dumitru Mazilu, the Foreign Minister in Romania's interim administration.

Independent observers believe that the front has invited the growing wave of criticism by insisting on fighting the election in its own right rather than having its members join the new parties. Its critics claim the front is unrepresentative.

One Romanian journalist challenged Mr Munteanu to explain where he and other members of the ruling body were during the heaviest fighting in Bucharest on December 21 and 22. He also accused the front of "exporting Romanian children" by allowing the foreign adoption of orphans to resume.

The ill-tempered briefing was the clearest public indication yet of how quickly the atmosphere has soured since the heady days of Ceausescu's downfall. This deterioration is likely to continue until the new elections which, it is hoped, will remove suspicions that power is being usurped by people who remain close to Communist sympathizers.

Some are expected to put forward the defence that they were only obeying orders from the legitimate Government. It is unclear whether the tribunals will also try corrupt Party officials.

The decree legalizing the new tribunals was accompanied by another establishing a form of local and regional government throughout Romania in advance of the poll to choose a national government.

Hostility at the press conference was symptomatic of the growing distrust expressed by Romanians at the activities of the front, which is accused of harbouring too many former Communists.

Mr Munteanu dismissed

Medgyessy said it was no longer capable of serving either the development of its member states or the integration of the Central and East European region. The system was dominated by the Soviet Union because of her political and economic power.

So far officials agreed that parts of Comecon are obsolete and needed radical changes but said the Soviet Union was against disbanding the pact.

Mr Gennady Gerasimov, the Foreign Ministry spokesman

Medgyessy said that for

geographical, economic, developmental and political reasons, the national course of action seemed to be to form a Polish-Czechoslovak-Hungarian integration unit as the first step towards a new cooperation.

This had paralysed competition and put dampers on technical and technological development.

Mr Vaclav Klaus, the Czechoslovakian Finance Minister, said last week there was no reason for Comecon to exist.

He said that Czechoslovakia would propose the abolition of all agreements concerning exchange rates within Comecon and would

quit the organization if its demands were refused.

Mr Marian Swiecki, the Polish Foreign Trade Minister, said on Friday that the organization should be replaced by a less rigid set-up.

Mr Aurel Munteanu, a spokesman for Romania's ruling National Salvation Front, told a news conference that Comecon "has never functioned properly, and it is not functioning properly now, either". It has to change if it is to have any chance of survival."

The "myth of brotherhood" built on raw material and energy imports from the Soviet Union and exports of the manufacturing industry and agricultural products to the rest of Europe was parallel to applying a rigid quota system

and bureaucratic plan coordination, he added.

The East European countries have restored links, led by Ethiopia, and ties with both Japan and China are markedly warmer.

The big prize for Israel is still elusive, however: the restoration of links with the Soviet Union itself. Moscow no longer sides automatically with pro-Arab forces in the United Nations. In October it abstained for the first time in the annual vote on ejecting Israel from the UN.

Israel and the Soviet Union have established consular missions, and liberalization under President Gorbachev has led to an exodus of Soviet Jews to Israel. Last year about 13,000 Soviet Jews arrived, six times as many as in 1988, and, despite the huge strain on housing and jobs, officials welcome the continuing influx at a rate of several hundred a day.

Partly because of new US restrictions on immigration, Israel is bracing itself to absorb at least 100,000 Soviet Jews over the next three years. Soviet tourism, many of them Jewish, are also coming in large numbers and Aeroflot, the Soviet

African countries have restored links, led by Ethiopia, and ties with both Japan and China are markedly warmer.

The Israeli newspaper *Al Hamishmar* observed recently that East-West rapprochement and the democratization of Eastern Europe were "bringing Israel closer into the circle of international relations ... the long years when Israel was identified as an American extension in the Middle East are gone".

The East Europeans, their economies ruined by communist mismanagement, are turning to Israel for expertise in agriculture — especially irrigation — and high technology, giving Israel a trade boost just when it sees its markets threatened by European integration in 1992.

The East Europeans, their economies ruined by communist mismanagement, are turning to Israel for expertise in agriculture — especially irrigation — and high technology, giving Israel a trade boost just when it sees its markets threatened by European integration in 1992.

Most Israelis remain to be convinced that anti-Semitism has been eradicated

and that anti-Semitic

Most Israelis remain to be convinced that anti-Semitism has been eradicated

and that anti-Semitic

Most Israelis remain to be convinced that anti-Semitism has been eradicated

and that anti-Semitic

Most Israelis remain to be convinced that anti-Semitism has been eradicated

and that anti-Semitic

Most Israelis remain to be convinced that anti-Semitism has been eradicated

and that anti-Semitic

Most Israelis

playboy

take only a few to do it. A new leadership is consolidating in Bucharest but the threads that bind the provinces are thin indeed. The Communists are suddenly more than in Bucharest, if not more than in the rest of the country. The revolution looks like it is less subject to control. The Army is trusted to control people bring bread and wine to parked in Sibiu's main square. The drivers? "The Army will be to barracks until the last vestiges," a general said last week. "It gives the Army almost no room. It is the Army, after all, who know how many soldiers there are."

It is said that Army intelligence officers want the centre of the Securitate to be eased to allow them to flush out the fugitives. As Securitate men start moving, whole networks of opposition are gunning for them. And the Jepic number is down to just another word.

Since Azerbaijanis in the Nakhichevan region began tearing down border installations and barbed wire along the southern frontier with Iran on New Year's Day, Moscow has been unable to make an official statement.

Several times Mr Gerasimov has indicated that these events are being reported by the Soviet newspapers and television and that

he has nothing more to add.

While an Iranian foreign ministry delegation was in Moscow yesterday the Iranian news agency Ira was reporting that some 300 Soviet Moslems had braved freezing temperatures to stage a demonstration of Islamic solidarity with their Iranian kinsfolk along the Aras River which forms part of the frontier.

It was the second such demonstration reported by Ira who said that Soviet border guards had watched the demonstration but had not intervened. Mr Gerasimov indicated in his briefing that these events would be discussed between the Iranian and Soviet sides in Moscow.

Meanwhile, in advance of Mr Gorbachov's scheduled visit to Lithuania tomorrow to talk to breakaway local communists, a Soviet Communist Party delegation left Moscow yesterday for the capital Vilnius. Both the advance party and the Soviet leader will have to report back to the party's central committee so that it can pronounce on the Lithuanian and Soviet sides in Moscow.

Mr Gerasimov has so far

been unable to give any official

Kremlin explanation for recent events in Azerbaijan or on Iranian reaction to the demonstrations along its border with the Soviet Republic.

At a briefing yesterday, he said that journalists going to the area "would simply be torn apart by the different groups claiming to have the absolute truth."

Since Azerbaijanis in the

Nakhichevan region began

tearing down border installations and barbed wire along the southern frontier with Iran on New Year's Day, Moscow has been unable to make an official statement.

Several times Mr

Gerasimov has indicated that

these events are being

reported by the Soviet news-

papers and television and that

he has nothing more to add.

While an Iranian foreign

ministry delegation was in

Moscow yesterday the Iranian

news agency Ira was report-

ing that some 300 Soviet

Moslems had braved freez-

ing temperatures to stage a

demonstration of Islamic

solidarity with their Iranian

kinsfolk along the Aras River

which forms part of the front-

ier.

It was the second such

demonstration reported by

Ira who said that Soviet

border guards had watched

the demonstration but had

not intervened. Mr Gerasimov

indicated in his briefing that

these events would be dis-

cussed between the Iranian

and Soviet sides in Moscow.

Meanwhile, in advance of

Mr Gorbachov's scheduled

visit to Lithuania tomorrow

to talk to breakaway local

communists, a Soviet Commu-

nist Party delegation left Mos-

cow yesterday for the capital

Vilnius. Both the advance party

and the Soviet leader will have

to report back to the party's

central committee so that it

can pronounce on the Lithuanian

and Soviet sides in Moscow.

Meanwhile, in advance of

Mr Gorbachov's scheduled

visit to Lithuania tomorrow

to talk to breakaway local

communists, a Soviet Commu-

nist Party delegation left Mos-

cow yesterday for the capital

Vilnius. Both the advance party

and the Soviet leader will have

to report back to the party's

central committee so that it

can pronounce on the Lithuanian

and Soviet sides in Moscow.

Meanwhile, in advance of

Mr Gorbachov's scheduled

visit to Lithuania tomorrow

to talk to breakaway local

communists, a Soviet Commu-

nist Party delegation left Mos-

cow yesterday for the capital

Vilnius. Both the advance party

and the Soviet leader will have

to report back to the party's

central committee so that it

can pronounce on the Lithuanian

and Soviet sides in Moscow.

Meanwhile, in advance of

Mr Gorbachov's scheduled

visit to Lithuania tomorrow

to talk to breakaway local

communists, a Soviet Commu-

nist Party delegation left Mos-

cow yesterday for the capital

Vilnius. Both the advance party

and the Soviet leader will have

to report back to the party's

central committee so that it

can pronounce on the Lithuanian

and Soviet sides in Moscow.

Meanwhile, in advance of

Mr Gorbachov's scheduled

visit to Lithuania tomorrow

to talk to breakaway local

communists, a Soviet Commu-

nist Party delegation left Mos-

cow yesterday for the capital

Vilnius. Both the advance party

and the Soviet leader will have

to report back to the party's

central committee so that it

can pronounce on the Lithuanian

and Soviet sides in Moscow.

Meanwhile, in advance of

Mr Gorbachov's scheduled

visit to Lithuania tomorrow

to talk to breakaway local

communists, a Soviet Commu-

nist Party delegation left Mos-

cow yesterday for the capital

Vilnius. Both the advance party

and the Soviet leader will have

to report back to the party's

central committee so that it

can pronounce on the Lithuanian

and Soviet sides in Moscow.

Meanwhile, in advance of

Mr Gorbachov's scheduled

visit to Lithuania tomorrow

to talk to breakaway local

communists, a Soviet Commu-

nist Party delegation left Mos-

cow yesterday for the capital

Vilnius. Both the advance party

and the Soviet leader will have

to report back to the party's

central committee so that it

can pronounce on the Lithuanian

and Soviet sides in Moscow.

Meanwhile, in advance of

Mr Gorbachov's scheduled

visit to Lithuania tomorrow

to talk to breakaway local

communists, a Soviet Commu-

nist Party delegation left Mos-

cow yesterday for the capital

Vilnius. Both the advance party

and the Soviet leader will have

to report back to the party's

central committee so that it

can pronounce on the Lithuanian

and Soviet sides in Moscow.

Meanwhile, in advance of

Mr Gorbachov's scheduled

visit to Lithuania tomorrow

to talk to breakaway local

communists, a Soviet Commu-

nist Party delegation left Mos-

cow yesterday for the capital

Vilnius. Both the advance party

and the Soviet leader will have

to report back to the party's

central committee so that it

can pronounce on the Lithuanian

and Soviet sides in Moscow.

Meanwhile, in advance of

Mr Gorbachov's scheduled

visit to Lithuania tomorrow

to talk to breakaway local

communists, a Soviet Commu-

nist Party delegation left Mos-

cow yesterday for the capital

Vilnius. Both the advance party

and the Soviet leader will have

to report back to the party's

central committee so that it

can pronounce on the Lithuanian

and Soviet sides in Moscow.

Meanwhile, in advance of

Mr Gorbachov's scheduled

visit to Lithuania tomorrow

to talk to breakaway local

communists, a Soviet Commu-

January 8 1990

THE TIMES TUESDAY JANUARY 9 1990

PARLIAMENT

Investigations into House of Fraser 'nearly complete'

Investigations into the House of Fraser takeover, some of which have extended overseas, are nearing completion, Sir Patrick Mayhew, Attorney General, told the Commons at questions.

Mr Teddy Taylor (Southend East, C) had complained of extraordinary delay and asked whether Sir Patrick was concerned at the decision of the Department of Trade and Industry not to refer the unpublished report to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. That meant that, if serious fraud were discovered, identified or proved, there was nothing that the Attorney General or anyone else could do about the assets of the company.

Sir Patrick said that Lord Young of Graffham, the former Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, had told the House of Lords that he was very anxious indeed to publish the report.

"I am certain that that is exactly true of his successor."

Affidavits from the Serious Fraud Office and the office of the Director of Public Prosecu-

tions had said that in the interests of justice, publication of the report should be delayed pending investigation. Those investigations are not limited to this country, but had had also to take place overseas.

Mr Dennis Skinner (Bolton, Lab) had asked earlier whether the Attorney General would discuss with the Serious Fraud Office the Ferranti case and the fact that the directors had allowed a £250 million "sting" to take place under their noses.

"Does he expect us on this side to believe in the credibility of that taking place without fraud being involved and will he discuss with that office the question of £4,000 that went through a checklist with the result that a young mother and baby are in jail for six months?"

"If he wants equality, he should take Judge Pickles off cases of young black women and babies and stick him on City cases and let him loose there."

Sir Patrick: "With his well known concern not to anticipate anything by jumping to a conclusion, he would not wish me to anticipate the result of the investigation put in train by the

Director of the Serious Fraud Office and the Director of Public Prosecutions from matters concerning Ferranti."

• There is a dispute in the legal profession over the rate of compensation in legal-aid cases, delays in payments, and the circumstances in which aid is granted has led to a reduction in the number of solicitors now willing to undertake such cases, Mr Ivan Lawrence, QC (Barton, C), said at question time.

Sir Nicholas Lyell, Solicitor General, said that he was aware of the concern. Considerable advances had been made in rates of remuneration. The Legal Aid Board was tackling promptness of payment.

He said that the provision for all legal-aid expenditure in the present supply estimates was £557,021,000, compared with £273,990,000 five years ago and £99,350,000 ten years ago.

Mr John McFall (Dumbarton, Lab) said that poor people were discriminated against. The less money they had, the less chance they had of getting justice.

Sir Nicholas said that those assumptions were not entirely correct.



There had been discussions on new project proposals with Voluntary Services Overseas and it had been told that the Government would be happy to support voluntary programmes in Cambodia. Mrs Chalker said that the Government had repeatedly asked for assurances that food aid was not finding its way to the Khmer Rouge. She was making every effort to ensure that the food went to the ordinary people in Cambodia. "But I am here in London, I am not in the camps in Cambodia and I cannot say hand to heart that none of it has gone through." The Government wanted to see a political solution in Cambodia.

being parcellled up and sent directly to the armed forces, including the Khmer Rouge, fighting against the Cambodian Government. Mrs Chalker said that the Government had repeatedly asked for assurances that food aid was not finding its way to the Khmer Rouge. She was making every effort to ensure that the food went to the ordinary people in Cambodia. "But I am here in London, I am not in the camps in Cambodia and I cannot say hand to heart that none of it has gone through." The Government wanted to see a political solution in Cambodia.

Equality Bill wins second reading

The House of Commons resumed after the Christmas recess and gave a swift and unopposed second reading to a Bill to amend the rights of public sector pensioners to comply with an EC directive on equal treatment of men and women.

Mr Richard Ryder, Secretary to the Treasury, moving the second reading of the Pensions (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill, said that there was no need for an important change to present legislation, but minor changes could be made while meeting EC obligations on equal treatment of men and women.

Mr Paul Flynn, an Opposition spokesman on social security, said that the most negative aspect of the Bill concerned pension increases for retired women under 55 with dependent children. If so few were involved, why bother to deprive them of pension increases that they had already?

The House also debated, on second reading, the Government Trading Bill. Mr Norman Lamont, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, said that it would encourage civil servants in management agencies to take a more businesslike approach.

Consumer Bill in danger from DTI

By Sheila Gunn, Political Reporter

The first private member's Bill to be debated during this session may be wrecked by opposition from Department of Trade and Industry ministers.

Private members' Bills are in any case extremely vulnerable to determined opposition by a small group, or even one, MP and only those winning the top six or seven places in the ballot stand a chance of getting enough time to be enacted.

Mr Martyn Jones, Labour MP for Cwmbran South West, has introduced the Consumer Guarantees Bill to give consumers wider powers to demand repairs or replacements for faulty goods, after coming top of the ballot. Its second reading debate will be on January 26.

But the department says that the Bill, largely drafted by the National Consumer Council, is "unworkable" as originally proposed, excessively bureaucratic and adds to the burden on industry.

The department said that its final view will be disclosed after Mr Jones publishes his formal version of the legislation on Thursday. However, the department preferred legislation based on a reform of the Sale of Goods Act recommended by the Law Commission instead of the consumer council's proposals.

Mr Jones has said the Bill would give consumers buying goods with a guarantee the right to a replacement or full repairs for up to 12 months. The product is found to be faulty.

A MORI poll conducted for the council found that 96 per cent of people wanted their MP to support the Bill.

The prospects look brighter for the Computer Misuse Bill, introduced by Mr Michael Colvin, Conservative MP for Romsey and Wimborne, who came third in the ballot. Based on the Law Commission's recommendations to penalize computer hackers, it has the full backing of the department and all-party support.

Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, has promised to support a Bill which would make it a criminal offence to gain unauthorized entry into a computer, punishable by a fine of up to £2,000 and up to six months' imprisonment. Those gaining unauthorized entry with intent to commit a serious crime or to alter data would face up to five years' imprisonment.

Mr Colvin said Britain was becoming a "hacker's paradise".

The House of Lords does not hold a ballot. However, the handful of private peers' measures introduced each session usually complete their passage through the upper House but fall in the Commons unless there is no opposition.

• A list of private members' Bills and the dates of their second reading debates will be published tomorrow.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Questions: Defence; Prime Minister. Enterprise and New Towns (Scotland) Bill, second reading.

Labour plans for 20,000 jail cut

By Robin Oakley, Political Editor

shadow Home Secretary, said in a speech to the Birmingham Rotary Club yesterday: "The White Paper will be dedicated to achieving, for all our citizens, equality before the law, equal access to the law and equal treatment before the law."

Mr Hattersley said that 46 per cent increase in prison sentences could be reduced, but only by a sustained programme of crime prevention.

He accepted the Government's view that the way to reduce crime was to increase the severity of sentences and said that "on many occasions" custodial sentences resulted in second offences rather than deterrence.

The best way of ensuring that a young man or woman follows a life of crime is to send them to prison for some minor offence.

All the evidence, he argued, was that an over-reliance on imprisonment was not the way to reduce crime.

The Government, Mr Hattersley said, was concerned with punishment rather than rehabilitation and he claimed that the recent decision to raise the threshold for compensation showed that ministers did not really care about the victims of crime.

"I DON'T WANT TO HAVE TO SEE ANYONE ABOUT A LOAN. I JUST WANT TO SEE THE MONEY!"

Apply for a loan with Lloyds Bowmaker and we'll give you a provisional yes or no immediately.

No interviews, no legal fees, no complicated application forms and no unnecessary hanging around.

All you have to be is a homeowner. All you have to do is pick up the phone or send off a simple to understand application form.

HOW MUCH?

21.5% APR for loans of between £5,000 and £15,000 repayable over 5-15 years. You can also borrow smaller amounts and repay over shorter periods at different rates. You'll be pleased to hear that all rates are fixed until 1st January 1992.

There's no limit to the amount you can

borrow and you can be sure we won't encourage you to borrow more than you can afford.

HOW QUICKLY?

No-one can legally get you a secured loan quicker than Lloyds Bowmaker. Whatever you may be told, there is a legal requirement for all secured loan companies to allow you at least 8 days to change your mind (so if you need a

IF THE WORST HAPPENS.

You can insure against it. For a few pounds a month, our Payment Protection Plan means that if suddenly you have trouble with your repayments (due to sickness, accident or compulsory redundancy) the insurance could pay them. With most loans we also include free life insurance.

WHAT'S THE PAY OFF?

Pay off all your outstanding debts in one go and leave yourself with one simpler (and very probably cheaper) bill at the end of each month. Alternatively, you can use the money for whatever purpose you choose.

THE HIDDEN EXTRAS.

(There aren't any.)

ESTATE AGENTS

WE DO NOT OCCUPY PREMISES DATE PROPERTY PURCHASED

ESTIMATED VALUE £ COUNCIL DISCOUNT YES/NO AMOUNT £

Please tick if you are interested in payment protection insurance cover for yourself and partner. To Lloyds Bowmaker, we confirm that all information shown above is accurate and agree that it shall form the basis of any loan agreement. We authorise you to release the information above to any third party as may be required in the course of your business or for the compilation of general credit reference information. We authorise you to take up any references you require including information from our existing mortgagees. We hereby authorise you or your agents to inspect the register of our title at HM Land Registry.

SIGNED DATE

SIGNED (PARTNER) DATE

Lloyds Bowmaker

PLEASE COMPLETE IN BLOCK CAPITALS	LOAN REQUIRED	PERIOD OF REPAYMENT	MONTHS
PURPOSE OF LOAN			
YOURSELF SURNAME MR/MRS/MISS/MS	FORENAME(S)		
TEL. NO. (0171) STD. (0171) STD.	DATE OF BIRTH		
NUMBER OF DEPENDENTS	ANNUAL INCOME £		
PLEASE STATE IF SELF-EMPLOYED YES/NO NUMBER OF YEARS	MONTHS. OCCUPATION		
EMPLOYER'S NAME AND ADDRESS	NUMBER OF YEARS SERVICE		
YOUR PARTNER SURNAME MR/MRS/MISS/MS	FORENAME(S)		
TEL. NO. (0171) STD. (0171) STD.	DATE OF BIRTH		
NUMBER OF DEPENDENTS	ANNUAL INCOME £		
PLEASE STATE IF SELF-EMPLOYED YES/NO NUMBER OF YEARS	MONTHS. OCCUPATION		
EMPLOYER'S NAME AND ADDRESS	NUMBER OF YEARS SERVICE		
DRAFT/COPIES			
PLEASE ENCLOSE MOST RECENT PAY SLIPS FOR EACH APPLICANT			

YOUR MORTGAGE AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE OUTSTANDING £	MONTHLY REPAYMENT £
TYPE OF PROPERTY DETACHED <input type="checkbox"/> SEMI-DETACHED <input type="checkbox"/> TERRACED <input type="checkbox"/> BUNGALOW <input type="checkbox"/> FLAT <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER	ACCOUNT NO.
NAME AND ADDRESS OF BUILDING SOCIETY	
NAME AND ADDRESS OF SECOND MORTGAGE	ACCOUNT NO.
AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE OUTSTANDING £	
YOUR PROPERTY ADDRESS OF PROPERTY OFFERED AS SECURITY	
POSTCODE	
PRICE PAID FOR PROPERTY £	
ESTIMATED VALUE £ COUNCIL DISCOUNT YES/NO AMOUNT £	
Please tick if you are interested in payment protection insurance cover for yourself and partner. To Lloyds Bowmaker, we confirm that all information shown above is accurate and agree that it shall form the basis of any loan agreement. We authorise you to release the information above to any third party as may be required in the course of your business or for the compilation of general credit reference information. We authorise you to take up any references you require including information from our existing mortgagees. We hereby authorise you or your agents to inspect the register of our title at HM Land Registry.	
SIGNED DATE	
SIGNED (PARTNER) DATE	

Lloyds Bowmaker

Direct Line
0800 100 1000

Monday-Friday 8am-8pm

9am-5pm Saturday

10am-4pm Sunday

11am-3pm Bank Holidays

10am-4pm Public Holidays

11am-3pm Christmas Day

11am-3pm Boxing Day

11am-3pm New Year's Day

11am-3pm Good Friday

11am-3pm Easter Monday

11am-3pm May Day

11am-3pm Bank Holiday Monday

11am-3pm Bank Holiday Tuesday

11am-3pm Bank Holiday Wednesday

11am-3pm Bank Holiday Thursday

11am-3pm Bank Holiday Friday

11am-3pm Bank Holiday Saturday

11am-3pm Bank Holiday Sunday

11am-3pm Bank Holiday Monday

11am-3pm Bank Holiday Tuesday

11am-3pm Bank Holiday Wednesday

11am-3pm Bank Holiday Thursday

11am-3pm Bank Holiday Friday

11am-3pm Bank Holiday Saturday

11am-3pm Bank Holiday Sunday

11am-3pm Bank Holiday Monday

11am-3pm Bank Holiday Tuesday

11am-3pm Bank Holiday Wednesday

11am-3pm Bank Holiday Thursday

11am-3pm Bank Holiday Friday

11am-3pm Bank Holiday Saturday

11am-3pm Bank Holiday Sunday

11am-3pm Bank Holiday Monday

11am-3pm Bank Holiday Tuesday

11am-3pm Bank Holiday Wednesday

11am-3pm Bank Holiday Thursday

11am-3pm Bank Holiday Friday

11am-3pm Bank Holiday Saturday

Still on the right track?

Sir Robert Reid has spoken of his hopes and fears for British Rail in the new Europe. George Hill reads between the lines

After seething in silence for months over the steadily deteriorating relationship between British Rail and transport ministers, Sir Robert Reid, BR's outgoing chairman, spoke out yesterday.

His speech to the Chartered Institute of Transport was much more than an exasperated outburst after months of anguish over safety standards, grievance over Government handling of last summer's industrial dispute and uncertainty over privatization and future investment. It was an unapologetic apology for a career which spans the whole history of nationalized railways in Britain, and an affirmation of his belief that a period of new vitality for the railways is ahead, if Britain is ready to seize the opportunity.

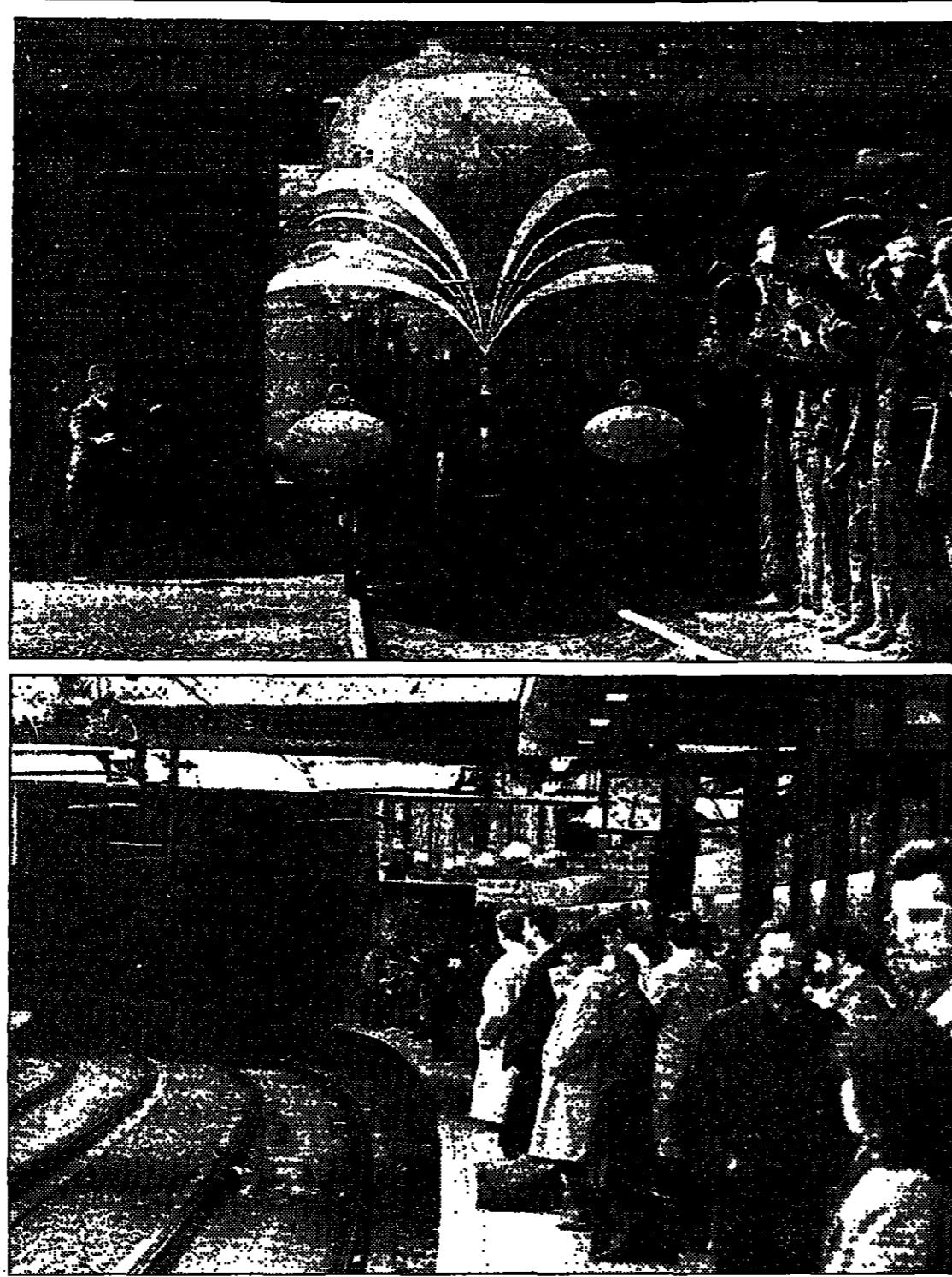
Like many transport planners in Britain, he looks across the Channel and is both impressed and alarmed by what he sees. Britain's neighbours are energetically building up integrated transport networks to take advantage of the growth in trade after 1992, and committing huge public funds to the enterprise. He fears that, unless Britain shows a comparable determination, it will be left on the sidelines. The European rail link, the greatest potential source of new strength for rail in this country for a century, could instead marginalize Britain's economy and turn it into a backwater, cut off from its markets.

With great vision and determination, the French are setting about creating a major communications hub at Charles de Gaulle Airport, on the outskirts of Paris, and inviting large-scale commercial development at the point of interchange between road, rail and air traffic. When the line of the rail link between Paris and the Channel Tunnel was first sketched on the map of France, a decision was made to divert it towards the city of Lille, and lead line to Brussels from there. Thus a subsidiary hub would be placed at the centre of a zone of economic depression, where it would do most good.

At the same time, as Sir Robert said, the Belgians will be devoting their best efforts to establishing Brussels as a centre for interchanges between rail and air. The contrast with Britain, still deeply embroiled in uncertainties about the form and timing of its rail link with Europe, is glaring.

BR's own part in that sorry story is an inglorious one. Its managers would claim that its record was partly the result of interference and irresolution in Whitehall. But yesterday Sir Robert was looking beyond that history of short-sighted decisions, launched on the public without regard for presentation and abandoned in favour of equally short-sighted decisions when the squeals of protest threatened to become too loud.

He wasted little breath on explicit or hinted recriminations concerning the recent past. He treated last year's behind-the-scenes battles against Government plans to privatize the railways — battles which BR conducted with patience and



Then and now: the changing face of rail from the pride and glory of the 1930s (top) to the disgruntled 1990s

diplomatic skill — as finished business. The aspects of the past he dwelt on were those that underlined his claim that BR, in managerial terms, is already well on course to become the streamlined, customer-oriented operation that the privatisers would seek to make it.

It is a claim that hard-pressed commuters in the south-east of England might greet with disbelief. In the past five years, commuters in the south-east have wrong-footed the planners by taking to rail in unexpectedly large numbers, and are suffering the consequent delays and congestion. But Sir Robert was able to point to significant advances

NEW WORDS FOR OLD



and gay, Comes this way sailing Like a safety ship of Tarsus. And how about Iago, praising women to Desdemona and Emilia: "She Never lacked gold, and yet went never gay?" in his poem "The Merchant", one of William Vaughan Moody's characters advises: "If nature made you so graceful, don't get gay." And what are we to make of cent." Poetry treads a perilous tightrope between subtlety

in productivity and financial performance since 1983. The reorganization of the system into five operating sectors has led to operating profits in the InterCity and freight sectors, and even Network SouthEast has halved its losses over the same period. Robert Reid, Sir Robert's successor, who takes over full control as chairman in October, may well see Network SouthEast in profit before his own five-year term comes to an end. It is an example which managers of the far more heavily subsidized railways in most other developed countries have observed with surprise, and some envy.

Much of what the outgoing chairman had to say was cast in the form of a message to his successor about being flexible, keeping in touch, and being ruthless when necessary. A lifelong Conservative, Sir Robert gave no ammunition to John Prescott, Labour's transport spokesman, about operating subsidies. When Cecil Parkinson, the Secretary of State for Transport, announced just before Christmas that there was to be no let-up in the progress towards balancing the books, even at the cost of steadily rising fares, Prescott greeted the announcement as another nail in the coffin of public service railways.

Now this very technique of cost-benefit analysis has been invoked by Sir Robert as the procedure to vindicate the value of investment in rail in an age of rising international traffic, cross-Channel links and rising environmental concern about roads and petrol engines. It would be ironic if the tool that seemed 20 years ago to have condemned rail to a marginal role in transport planning justified its claims to a central role in the pattern of European transport in the future.

Scars to, "leap thou, attire and all, Through proof of harness to my heart, and there/ Ride on the pants triumphing." Francis Thompson in "A Corybant for Autumn" declares that "day's dying dragon" is "painting red pants into the West". I am trying as hard as I can to be high-minded about this, but I cannot help twitching at those red pants.

Once you have started spotting double entendres, literature become a minefield. *Paradise Lost*: "And leave a singed bottom all involved with stench and smoke."

Vanity Fair: "Amelia wept confidentially on the housekeeper's shoulder and relieved herself of a good deal." *Uncle Tom's Cabin*: "Mrs Shelly stood like one stricken. Finally, turning to her toilet, she rested her face in her hands, and gave a sort of groan." Literature is as booby-trapped as life.

Philip Howard

Listen for the pun shots

The most obvious example of volatile idiom rendering quotations offside is the use of "gay" as a less hostile description of homosexual. This was first recorded in underworld and low-life slang in the Thirties, but since the war has become widely idiomatic. Consequently a range of famous quotations have become impossible without schoolboy sniggers from the roughs at the back of the class.

For example, it is no longer possible for Chaucer's Wife of Bath to ask in her prologue: "Why is my neighbour's wife so gay?" without risk of double entendre. The same embarrassment has come upon Samson Agonistes:

But who is this, what thing of sea or land?

Female of sex it seems,

That so bedeck'd, ornate,

And what are we to make of

cent." Poetry treads a perilous

tightrope between subtlety

CHEAPER MOTOR INSURANCE

DEAL DIRECT FOR A BETTER SERVICE

(LONDON)
01-686 2468

PHONE FOR AN IMMEDIATE QUOTE
ANYTIME 8am-8pm WEEKDAYS, 9am-2pm SATURDAYS

DIRECT LINE
INSURANCE

A member of The Royal Bank of Scotland Group

TO: Direct Line Insurance, FREEPOST, PO Box 75, Croydon CR9 9LZ.
Please send me an estimate for my motor insurance: I am between 25 and 75 years of age, hold a UK licence and do not require driving by persons under 25. I have had no accidents or claims within the last 3 years. I/We have had no convictions in the last 5 years (other than parking or I/ speeding). I am/we are in good health.

Mr/Mrs/Ms	Surname
Initials	
Year	Engine Size or CC
Type of Cover (Please tick)	Comprehensive <input type="checkbox"/> Third Party Fire & Theft <input type="checkbox"/>
Address	
Self Employed	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Driver (Please tick)	Insured only <input type="checkbox"/> Insured & Spouse <input type="checkbox"/> Any driver over 25 <input type="checkbox"/>
Postcode	Tel No.
No claims bonus Percentage Years	
Expiry Date of Previous Policy	

Is it teacher, or Mr Mopp?

As the argument over school pay nears its climax, a member of staff tells of life as a cleaner in his own school

Sir Robert, in contrast, firmly supports the concept of a system that pays its own way. In his speech he dwelt scornfully on the bad old days when priorities had been set by engineers, "those spending barons", whose demands had driven subsidies higher and higher.

But he made it clear that operating subsidies are one thing, and investment quite another. Underlying his warning about the dangers and opportunities of developments across the Channel lay another of the hard lessons which should have been learnt from the eventual misadventures of last year: the limitations of private-sector investment. A railway system should be able to run from one year to the next without subsidies of a general kind. But the massive investments needed to add major new routes to the network will not usually be forthcoming except from the state. The Channel Tunnel, which was to have blazed a trail in entrepreneurial infrastructure projects, is beginning to look increasingly like a warning to investors to be wary of visionary transport schemes. The ultimate cost is hard to predict, and the returns are far away in the future.

The management BR's has long been disenchanted with the state sector's investment regime. During the privatization debate, there was a clear perception within BR that it would be very pleasant to be freed from the criterion of return on investment that the Treasury imposes on new projects. If the Government had been interested in privatizing BR *en bloc* management would have found the idea quite alluring. But more recent events have shown that it is not easy for the private sector to take the long view where projects on this scale are concerned.

It ranks with supporters of rail that the criteria for assessing major road projects are not dependent to the same extent on the concept of profitability. Because road users do not pay a direct charge for the use of the road, a wider analysis of benefits has to be applied. Here, Sir Robert sees history coming full circle. In the early Sixties, he watched the railways undergo the heavy and salutary pruning of the Beeching era, on the basis of the cost-benefit analysis pioneered by Sir Alan Walters, who took a delight in demonstrating that some branch lines were so expensive to run that if BR closed them down and gave every user a Rolls-Royce, a chauffeur and a lifetime's supply of petrol, it would still save money.

Now this very technique of cost-benefit analysis has been invoked by Sir Robert as the procedure to vindicate the value of investment in rail in an age of rising international traffic, cross-Channel links and rising environmental concern about roads and petrol engines. It would be ironic if the tool that seemed 20 years ago to have condemned rail to a marginal role in transport planning justified its claims to a central role in the pattern of European transport in the future.

Teachers scurrying away from school may be concerned more to get to their part-time jobs than to return to their families. Every year about 4,000 of them give up the struggle to cope with pay they say is inadequate and leave for other jobs.

According to the National Union of Teachers, its members are working as bar staff, taxi drivers, car salesmen, shop workers, waiters, and nightclub stewards. Cardinal Basil Hume spoke for many last week when he said: "The pay levels of teachers are too low, administrative burdens too great, the pace of change too hectic and unsettling."

Other teachers take on extra work to add to their salaries. Graham Gordon, an English graduate, is a cleaner at his own school. Gordon, aged 41, a teacher since 1970, earns £14,690 a year, the maximum for a classroom teacher without allowances. He is married, with three young children, and pays a monthly mortgage of £160 on his two-bedroom bungalow. His part-time cleaning job at the 1,555-pupil Bournside School, in Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, pays an extra £40 a week.

He says: "Teaching is so badly paid that I have to work as a cleaner just to survive. I did not enter teaching for the money but for the status. However, both have dropped alarmingly in recent years, following Government attacks."

Teachers will work for love or money. If you deprive them of both, they will

The unions say the time has come to start afresh. Many of them believe it is going to be easier to deal with John MacGregor than his predecessor as Education Secretary, Kenneth Baker, although nobody doubts his toughness.

The unions have shifted their ground; they no longer rely on comparability with other professions but prefer to depend on market forces. Peter Smith, of the Assistant Masters and Mistresses Association, says: "The more telling argument is whether the money is enough to attract sufficient teachers of the right quality. There is growing evidence that it is not."

MacGregor knows that he will have to do something about pay if it is not to become a serious issue for the Conservatives in the next general election. Not the least of his problems will be in the Home Counties, where high house prices are driving teachers away.

Even independent schools are finding it tougher to hire suitable staff and are discussing ways of making cheaper accommodation available. And the Government is holding discussions with the Treasury and local authorities to see if they can provide cheaper mortgages for the staff of state schools.

Iain McLean, head of information technology and business studies at the 760-pupil Palmer Comprehensive School, Brighton, is typical of many teachers. He is a graduate. The problem for many teachers is summed up by David Jewell, Master of Haileybury, Hertford, and chairman of the Headmasters' Conference: "Teachers will work for love or money. Deprive them of both and they will quit."

David Tytler

Simpson
01-734 2002
HALF PRICE

MENSWEAR

- DAKS jackets £185, £192.50
- Winter blousons £189, £144.50
- Striped pyjamas £239, £19.50

WOMENSWEAR

- DAKS wool jackets £165, £82.50
- DAKS wool skirts £155, £37.50
- Tricolve two piece suits £199, £99

SALE

OPEN DAILY 9.00 AM - 6.00 PM THURSDAYS UNTIL 7.00 PM

See Front Page

Why Are You Shamed By Your Mistakes In English?

WHAT THIS FREE BOOK WILL SHOW YOU!
How to stop making embarrassing mistakes in English!
How to become a fluent conversationalist and effective public speaker!
How to increase your word power!
How to read faster - better!
How to put punch into your writing!
How to pass English exams!
How to develop self-confidence!

No stamp needed in U.K.

A quotation is something that somebody once said that seemed to make sense at the time. But times and idioms change, making monkeys out of our old quotations. If he were composing today, I do not think that Henry Vaughan, the Welsh mystic poet, could write: "How brave the prospect of bright backside!"

This was too much for the Rev H.F. Lyte anyway, who in his edition of Vaughan amended the last two words to "traversed plain". I do not suppose that Elizabeth Barrett Browning would put it exactly the way she did in her "Wine of Cyprus":

Our *Eurydice*, the human, With his droppings of warm tears, And his touches of things common Till they rose to touch the spheres!

Custom has coarsened some of those words particularly droppings.

Custom has coarsened some of those words particularly droppings.

Custom has coarsened some of those words particularly droppings.

Custom has coarsened some of those words particularly droppings.

Custom has coarsened some of those words particularly droppings.

Custom has coarsened some of those words particularly droppings.

Custom has coarsened some of those words particularly droppings.

Custom has coarsened some of those words particularly droppings.

Custom has coarsened some of those words particularly droppings.

Custom has coarsened some of those words particularly droppings.

Custom has coarsened some of those words particularly droppings.

Custom has coarsened some of those words particularly droppings.

Custom has coarsened some of those words particularly droppings.

Custom has coarsened some of those words particularly droppings.

Custom has coarsened some of those words particularly droppings.

Custom has coarsened some of those words particularly droppings.

Custom has coarsened some of those words particularly droppings.

Custom has coarsened some of those words particularly droppings.

Custom has coarsened some of those words particularly droppings.

Custom has coarsened some of those words particularly droppings.

Custom has coarsened some of those words particularly droppings.

Custom has coarsened some of those words particularly droppings.

Custom has coarsened some of those words particularly droppings.

Custom has coarsened some of those words particularly droppings.

Custom has coarsened some of those words particularly droppings.

Custom has coarsened some of those words particularly droppings.

Custom has coarsened some of those words particularly droppings.

Custom has coarsened some of those words particularly droppings.

Custom has coarsened some of those words particularly droppings.

Custom has coarsened some of those words particularly droppings.

Custom has coarsened some of those words particularly droppings.

Custom has coarsened some of those words particularly droppings.

Custom has coarsened some of those words particularly droppings.

Custom has coarsened some of those words particularly droppings.

Custom has coarsened some of those words particularly droppings.

Custom has coarsened some of those words particularly dro

TIMES DIARY

ALAN HAMILTON

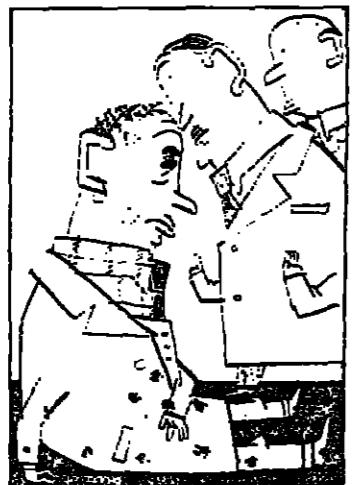
Whoever in the Pentagon has the job of dreaming up code names for American military adventures should probably be reassigned. Operation Just Cause is now almost universally known in Panama City as Operation Just 'Cos, although a catchier title would have been Operation Pineapple, the fruit to which General Noriega's complexion bears a supposed resemblance having become the unofficial emblem of the invasion. The local Holiday Inn is doing an invasion cocktail (with pineapple juice, naturally) and the Vatican embassy in which the dictator sought refuge has become known as the *Casa de Pina Colada*. His old cronies who speedily became turacos in the face of 24,000 heavily armed boys from the north are now known as *pinas volteadas* — upside-down pineapples — and one local entrepreneur has been making a mint from selling T-shirts bearing a pineapple superimposed on a no-entry sign.

Meanwhile, the more fruitless facets of the operation include the Stealth bomber which dropped two 2,000lb bombs, leaving no trace of itself or the bombs, and the anti-eavesdropping rock music which failed to prevent journalists with shortwave radios picking up the voice of a GI saying: "Are we going ahead with this or has Washington changed its mind?" — the first indication that the General was about to give himself up. Equally unsuccessful was the army of watching journalists who ran a sweepstake on the date of Noriega's surrender, only one got it right, although the most popular bet was a 1,000-1 shot, offered by the correspondent of *The Times* doubling as media bookmaker, that Noriega would be ordained a Roman Catholic priest.

All in all, a funny little war. Had I been head of code names, I would have called the operation Gunfight at the OK Canal.

A bottle of champagne yesterday from MORI, the pollsters, to G.K. Hiscocks of Beaufort, a Cardiff market research company, for most accurately predicting the electorate's voting intentions at the turn of the year. As the predictions were made last March, it's hardly surprising that not one of the 31 entrants came anywhere near envisaging Labour's 7 per cent lead. Only four participants thought Labour would be ahead at all, and even the winner put it neck and neck with the Tories. But the wooden spoon goes to the optimist from the Liberal Democrats' office who wagered his party commanding 27 per cent of voters' affections. The actual figure was 6 per cent. At least it was double the Owen tally.

BARRY FANTONI



'Let me through — I've been talking to a lobby correspondent'

Having endured the BBC's 75-minute self-justification, *See For Yourself*, on Sunday night, in which value for licence money was the heavily underscored theme, I shall be watching part two with interest on Thursday night, when Sue Lawley questions Chairman Hussey and Director-General Checkland. As one of the Corporation's toughest and most able interviewers, will she, I wonder, get her teeth into the meat of the Phillips Committee, which has been looking at BBC financing and whose recommendations, including making up to a quarter of the 28,000 staff redundant, are up for discussion by the board of governors later this month? Lawley's husband, Hugh Williams, is a member of that very committee, so she ought to be uniquely well-equipped to go for the jugular. If she dares.

Charles Wood, chief executive of the Government's least favourite local authority — the London Borough of Brent — is enjoying a quiet smirk at the expense of his Whitehall overlords. Having read in the municipal press that Brent Council's direct labour organization was running at a substantial loss, the Department of the Environment wrote to Wood demanding to know why he had not submitted an annual report and accounts, and making veiled threats that the organization would be banned from carrying out any construction works exceeding £50,000. Wood gleefully pointed out to the DoE that its threats were six months too late; Brent closed its direct labour organization last July, with the loss of 107 jobs.

Back home after a week of truffing, literally, in the Gallic fleshpots, and therefore seeking some means of retaining the reader's goodwill against the spirit-plummeting prospect of yet another back banging on about major hot dinners of our time, let me immediately reassure you. This column is not about food, it is about chefs; it seeks not to praise, but to grumble; and it is motivated not by self-indulgence but by reformist zeal. Especially as the old bad custom in France stands poised to become the new bad custom in Britain, this being the downside of that upside which over the past few years has been bringing us better and better domestic cooking by more and more chefs enjoying the heroic status which the culture increasingly bestows.

Make no mistake, here: I unreservedly accept the great

hatchetites should welcome the decision by six Labour-controlled local authorities to run their own ambulance services. Although it seems to be another GLC-style tweaking of central government's nose, it could provide an escape route from the economic and political corner in which Kenneth Clarke, the Health Secretary, has become wedged.

The council involved — all in the west Midlands, though the Labour-dominated Association of London Authorities may follow suit — have unwittingly endorsed several eminently market-related principles. First, they have shown that central government does not need to do everything itself, and that competing centres of power have their merits. Smaller entities can be more innovative, act more quickly, and experiment with ideas that could not be introduced nationally. Mrs Thatcher and her ministers believe this in theory — and it does no harm to see it proved in practice.

Second, and more important, the authorities have broken through the principle that all ambulance services must be provided under a national framework in NHS-owned vehicles. The use of non-NHS vehicles, hired or bought, constitutes an important principle.

This raises a point about the present dispute. Why should ambulance personnel — or firemen, for that matter — at odds with their employers consider themselves entitled to rights in "their" vehicles, using them for demonstrations even if it means that alternative services have to be provided by a scratch collection of military vehicles? This is an abuse of public property.

The mention of firemen points to another principle which the Labour councils have conceded: that the despatch of ambulances should be controlled by the fire service. Such moves could break down the increasingly artificial restrictions on whose job it is to provide emergency services.

Having inadvertently raised these questions, the Labour

authorities must also be thanked for giving ministers a clear path out of the ambulance service pay dispute. Public and political concern about the obvious shortcomings of the pay determination system in the emergency services is now quite apparent.

To go one step further towards greater efficiency, why not allow suitably trained fire service personnel to man the ambulances in areas where this would be practical? Work by the Audit Commission suggests such work-sharing could lead to significant savings, especially in areas where firemen have long gaps between call-outs. I have talked to entrepreneurial fire service officers who itch to play a broader role in serving the public.

In areas of difficult terrain and congested roads, the emergency services could also share helicopters, or call on those now being bought by a number of police forces. Such moves could break down the increasingly artificial restrictions on whose job it is to provide emergency services.

Having inadvertently raised these questions, the Labour

authorities must also be thanked for giving ministers a clear path out of the ambulance service pay dispute. Public and political concern about the obvious shortcomings of the pay determination system in the emergency services is now quite apparent.

Ministers are torn between yielding to that concern, which would lead to an unacceptable deterioration in emergency service provision, or toughing it out. So far they have toughed it out. They are, rightly, aware of the disastrous financial consequences for other health care if they were to yield in the present cash-limited, nationally-gauged NHS.

But neither of these avenues provides a long-term solution. Nor, really, does another apparently attractive option, pendulum arbitration, by which the arbitrator comes down in favour of one side with no middle

course. It would be an improvement on the present arrangements but makes no provision for more efficient local bargaining or pay differentials to reward specific skills — the problem which has got Mr Clarke into such hot water.

This proposal will, of course, be attacked as a plan to privatize the ambulance service. It is not. It is simply to do what the Labour authorities have shown can be done to improve efficiency by arranging matters locally, under a responsible framework, and breaking down restrictive practices.

If one day it led to many ambulance services being tied in with fire or other emergency provision, or run by management buy-out staff with a stake in their jobs — well, so much the better. In the meantime let us give thanks to the Labour councils for pointing the way out of a dead-end dispute.

The author is general director of the Institute of Economic Affairs.

Norman Tebbit urges a tough line against Tories who would sacrifice national sovereignty

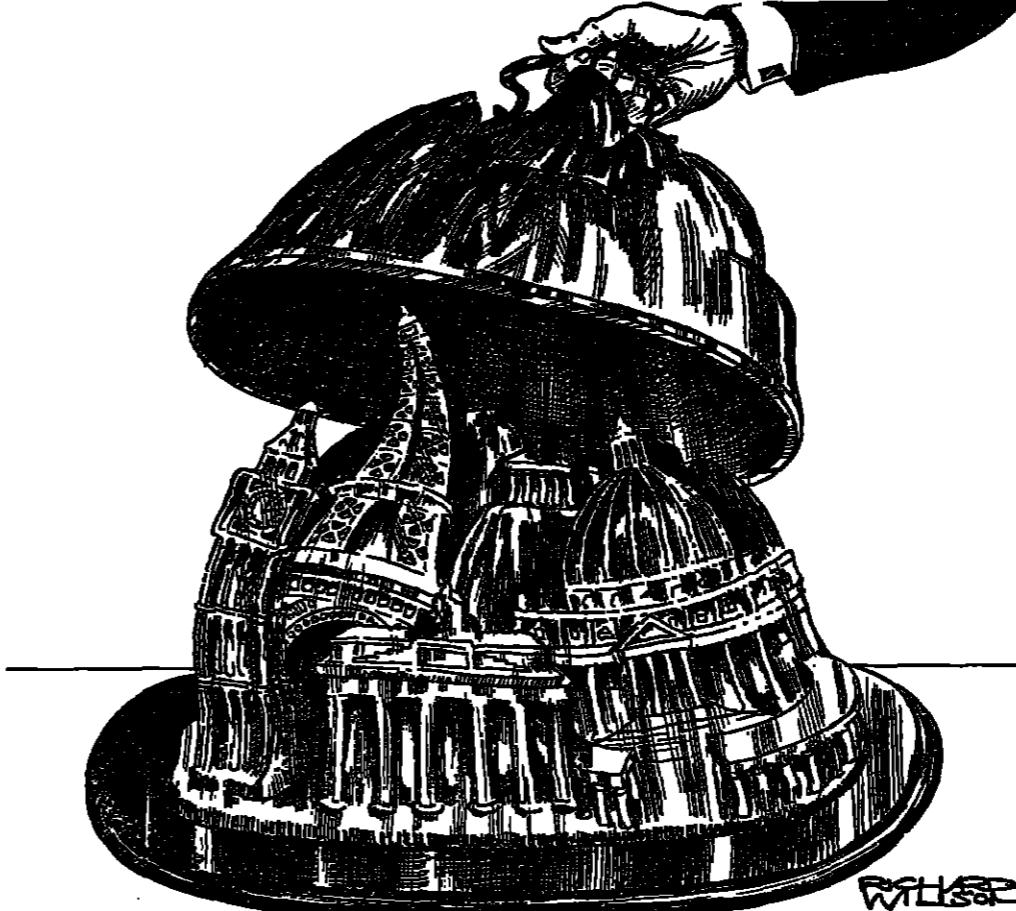
No fudging on this Euro mould

Last night Conservative Euro MPs were due to meet the party chairman, Kenneth Baker, in preparation for a meeting with the Prime Minister on January 24. The initiative for the latter seems to have come from Downing Street — an olive branch prompted by the need to heal wounds and close ranks after a year in which Tory MEPs, the Government and party seemed not only out of step but intent on tripping one another up.

Keneth Baker and the MEPs were undoubtedly at their diplomatic best, but I believe prospects for a happy outcome are bleak. Relations between the British government and parliament in Westminster and the Brussels orientated MEPs have never been easy. As party chairman between 1985 and 1987 I managed to keep the peace and act as a bridge between the two camps. That was possible not only because I was willing to be used as a political shock absorber; more importantly, there was mutual unwillingness to crystallize the issues in the unavoidable power struggle between the European Parliament and would-be Euro government in Brussels and our own Parliament and Government in Britain.

Keneth Baker is unlikely to be so lucky. Although he will want to build bridges by way of better machinery for consultation between the British MEPs and Westminster, their demand for a vice-chairmanship of the party will not be welcomed. Nor will that be the only disagreement. Whatever bridges are built, traffic over them is more likely to be hostile than friendly.

In their present hawkish mood it seems that the British MEPs will conclude that 1990 is the year their ambitions to create a united Europe will have priority over the need to close the rift with the Conservative leadership and MPs at home. The issue most likely to precipitate a party struggle is that of the single European currency. That, however,



EC's present mechanism, a new treaty to that end, separate from the Treaty of Rome, could be signed by the other 11 members. Britain would then be left to struggle belatedly into the system, having had no say in its design.

The assumption behind that argument is that the present government and supporters of

the concept of a Europe of nation-states are totally opposed to the use of a common currency. That is not so, and many free spirits would be willing to see the common use of currencies leading to a progressive diminution in the role, or elimination, of the weaker ones and increasing dominance of the stronger.

Such a solution does not

appeal to the MEPs. British they are and Conservative they claim to be, but only the European centralized system fits their ambition that their parliament at Strasbourg should be supreme over Westminster. The latter would become something of a glorified Greater London Council with added pageantry and, for the time being, control over criminal (but not commercial) law and the armed forces — almost useless to a government all but bereft of economic power.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer, constrained in his budget judgement of the level of the public sector borrowing requirement or debt repayment, and faced with progressive loss of authority over the total to be raised by taxation, would find

it true, of course, that no nation is immune to world economic forces. However, the same is true of sovereignty more generally and it cannot be argued that the existence of the superpowers has rendered the sovereignty of, say, Japan, or New Zealand or Israel a mere delusion. No sovereignty is absolute, as Russia found in Afghanistan and Argentina in the Falklands, and as Israel is finding in the occupied West Bank today, but to deny its existence is to deny reality.

The MEPs' counter-argument is that while Britain's veto could prevent progress towards a single European currency within the

industry will protest that as part of its voluntary deal, it spends £1 million a year on a campaign to promote the law. But that is only 1 per cent of the sum it spends promoting its products. It will insist too that its promotional activity is directed only at adults. That also is nonsense. As children blind to billboards and the placards of tobacco sponsors at the sports events they watch on television?

Our surveys prove that besides being a failure, the industry's so-called campaign to prevent illicit sales is fraudulent.

The industry needs child smokers.

At least 110,000 people die

prematurely from smoking each year. So the industry needs 300

new smokers every day simply to replace those it kills.

even his authority over the distribution of tax severely constrained by limits on the variability of VAT.

Britain's entry into the European Community was a historic choice. Now we face another. This is not just row about a common currency or the Social Charter. It is about whether Her Majesty's Government is to be progressively reduced to the level of a provincial administration, the Mother of Parliaments to a regional council enacting by-laws and the United Kingdom to a province of Europe, or whether we remain a nation bound to our partners by treaty, by commerce and common interest but retaining both the right to manage our own affairs and the right to secede by abrogation of a treaty. It is a question of whether we abandon nationhood to become a mere province.

For a government in office, there is a temptation to fudge the issue as the salami slice erodes the nationhood which generations have patiently created. But with Tory MEPs eager to prove their European credentials to their colleagues in Strasbourg, they will see Mrs Thatcher's olive branch as a sign of weakness and press home their attack.

They will have at their disposal plenty of Euro taxpayers' money for "information campaigns" — that is, propaganda for their campaign to usurp power from the United Kingdom parliament. So there will be no more room for fudge. Either Mrs Thatcher will acquiesce in the lowering of the curtain on the history of this kingdom as an independent nation or she will fight for Britain's independence, even at the risk of Tory MEPs leaving the party.

The growing determination of East European nations to regain their nationhood in this, the 50th anniversary of the last time that Britain was isolated in Europe, makes a fitting backdrop to the revival of the great debate on Home Rule — but this time it is Home Rule for Britain.

bacco promotions and sponsorship, and by using the Budget to increase prices.

While no real attempt is made to protect our children, the tobacco industry is shielded by hypocrisy. Economic factors (export earnings, jobs, tax revenue and even, perhaps, savings on pensions) are put before the cost of premature death and suffering.

Freedom of choice may conceivably protect the manufacture and sale of a lethal product, but not its portrayal as glamorous and socially acceptable.

The tobacco industry will claim to sympathize with our concern and support many of our aims. If that were really true it would be saying it wanted to write off its future. Can anyone really believe that?

The author is chairman of Citizen Action's new Parents against Tobacco campaign.

Des Wilson launches a parent campaign to prevent children smoking

to protect children from smoking could represent the most effective approach yet, for it circumvents the "free to choose" obstacle. It will not be directed at existing adult smokers; instead its legitimacy is based on the right of parents to defend the well-being of their children.

If adults wish to take the one in four chance of dying from a tobacco-related disease, so be it, but the most ardent advocate of personal freedom would surely accept that this choice should not extend to impressionable children, any more than they are free to buy alcohol. No one wants their children to start smoking. It is on this consensus that the parents will build a wedge between their children and tobacco, between one generation of smokers and another.

The campaign being launched today by 100 well-known parents

in a recent letter to this newspaper the Tobacco Advisory Council described smoking as an adult practice. So it should be, but it is not. In England alone more than 300,000 children smoke regularly and 180,000 occasionally. While there has been a fall overall in child smoking, the statistics for 15-year-olds remain alarming, with 22 per cent of girls and 17 per cent of boys smoking regularly.

Surveys to be published later today will show that the law passed in 1986 to stop the sale of

cigarettes to children under 16 is being broken all over the country, by small shops, supermarkets, service stations and off-licences, and that few local authorities and police forces

have made any attempt to enforce it.

Where will the new smokers

come from? Research shows that

75 per cent of adult smokers are hooked by the age of 18. In other words, nearly all new smokers have to come from the under-18s. As the World Health Organization says: "We must assume the tobacco industry, like all other industries, is interested in expansion. The failure of a generation of young people to start smoking would devastate it within 10 years."

Those who today launch the Parents against Tobacco campaign, supported by 50 national organizations and more than 150 MPs, believe we can meet that challenge. Up to now we have not really set out to stop children smoking. But it can be done, by proper enforcement of the law, by further restrictions on to-

coming. As table after table paused in sequence and went into an elaborate routine of tawing and grinning and gasping, it was as if a ward-round had been crossed with a Mexican wave.

In the 30 minutes he took to

reach us, the *noises* disappeared, but I cannot remember

eating them, so preoccupied was I

in composing something gushing

to lay at M Thullier's feet in order

that he should not feel we were

unworthy to have a couple of

hundred quid taken off us. Eventually, he hove to, I gurgled, he nodded, and moved impudently

on. "I didn't catch any of that,"

said my wife. "Did you say *Please sir, can I have some more?*?"

I shall write to Michelin. The

time has come for a new little

symbol. A toque with three

vertical bars in front of it,

indicating a restaurant where the

chef doesn't appear.

A basinful of culinary obeisance



ALAN COREN

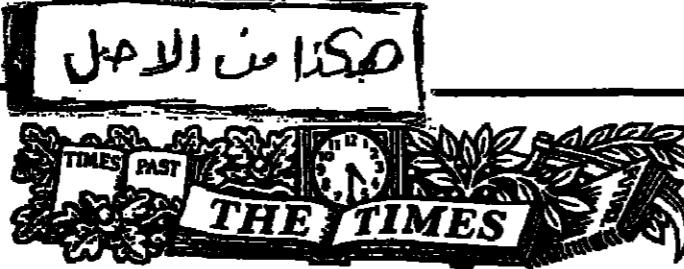
cook as an artist. The bloke who looks at a dead fish and a handful of weeds and discerns within them *rouget à la nage au basilic* is as deserving of that trade description as the one who juggles 26 letters until they have formed *Paradise Lost*, or winks the Bach Double Violin Concerto out of eight lengths of caugth. I should happily endorse a Nobel Prize for Parissier, or a Cooks' Corner in Westminster Abbey, and if Her Majesty were to take it in mind to drop the sabre upon some culinary shoulder, I would not stand in her way. For great chefs deserve all the admiration and gratitude a stomach has to give.

I ask only that they don't come

out seeking it. Cooks should stay in kitchens.

Let us suppose I am happily immersed in a novel; I do not expect the doorknob to ring half-way through, and to find Kingley Amis standing on the mat, nationally inquiring whether everything is all right, but actually asking me to fall and kiss the hem of his smock. If I am loling on the South Bank, eyes closed to appreciate the magic fingers plucking the Waldstein from the keyboard, I do not expect to have those eyes snapped open by Alfred Brendel suddenly bellowing: "Well, what do you think of it so far?"

Shift the locale to many a major restaurant, however, and we may



1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone: 01-782 5000

TIME TO SETTLE

There comes a psychological moment in any industrial dispute when one side or the other – or both – decide that the time has come to find a settlement. Few would be greatly surprised if that point had now arrived in the so-far intractable ambulancemen's dispute. Those watching can even detect a subtle change in the use of language and (in the age of broadcasting) of tone of voice. Both sides now seem to be moving tentatively towards convergence.

The Government has been right all along to argue that the ambulancemen were much more akin to health service workers than to firemen or policemen. It was that correct analysis which lay behind the original offer to the ambulancemen being in line with the general health service pay settlement of last spring, rather than being tied to pay in the fire service.

It has to be admitted that most of the work done by ambulancemen consists – in Mr Kenneth Clarke's unkind phrase – of little more than taxi driving. Some of the rest involves answering emergency calls. But even in that case ambulancemen are only the extended arm of the hospital casualty service.

It may be life saving, but no less so than the work of the doctors, nurses, porters, and others who staff the hospital casualty departments. By no means all ambulance crews are qualified paramedics, people able to provide at the road side or at the scene of a disaster sophisticated life-saving first-aid treatment for serious injuries. Where they are so qualified, this should be recognized in their pay and status. Those not yet qualified should have suitable opportunities and encouragement to become so.

All this has already been said in the course of the dispute so far, and it contains elements which would be useful in constructing a satisfactory settlement. In addition, the management side has made a revised pay offer which would span a different period from the offer originally made, while increasing pay by a higher percentage.

There has been a somewhat theoretical argument between the two sides about whether this represented "new money" – in the

beloved phrase of industrial relations bargaining – or not. But such niceties are only for those with a pocket calculator to hand and a more than usual facility with the rules of arithmetic, logic, and the conventional language of industrial relations.

For most of the public, it will merely have muddied the waters. And that, if the finding of a settlement is now the task in hand, could be a benefit too. It would make it less clear which side has won or lost, or whether one side has compromised more than the other. After the sort of dispute that this has become, any solution now will have to contain prizes for everyone, and honour all round.

On the political front the Government is now coming under some pressure to find a solution. It would be exaggerated to say, as some Conservative MPs are reported to be saying, that the ambulancemen have won the "hearts and minds" aspect of the dispute; and more nearly the truth to note merely that they have not lost it.

Given that the public regards the ambulance emergency service as little short of vital, and the arrangements to substitute for it as only just adequate, it is notable that the ambulancemen have not stirred up public antagonism against themselves. They have done so by the clever tactic of providing, or pretending to provide, alternative emergency cover in answer to 999 calls, and have thereby avoided the onus of being responsible for withdrawing that cover.

If Mr Clarke calculated on public pressure to bring the ambulancemen to heel, he misjudged it. What he should now do is reshuffle the various elements in his previous proposals and return to the negotiating table.

He should take with him proposals for some new structural device for reviewing ambulancemen's pay, so that ambulancemen can feel their longer-term aspirations about pay and status might continue in play beyond this dispute. And after a seemly amount of new negotiation, the ambulancemen should settle.

SIR ROBERT'S SWAN-SONG

Every schoolboy knows that if you are the master of an oil tanker in the English Channel and you want to turn left into the Bay of Biscay, you must start doing something about it as you pass the white cliffs of Dover. The principle, it seems, is not confined to bulk shipping.

In London last night, Sir Robert Reid, the retiring Chairman of the British Rail Board, delivered a valedictory address to the Chartered Institute of Transport. Sir Robert joined the old LNER as a graduate trainee in 1947. "The railway", he told his audience, "was then organized and managed in a way which basically remained unchanged until 1982".

Sir Robert maintained that for the first 35 years after it was nationalized, British Rail continued to be organized as a bureaucracy, to be engineering based, to be union dominated and to be production led. The regional general managers reigned supreme – "railway barons exercising great power in the geographical territories which they commanded" – and yet the business basis of their operations was as weak as their command structure was strong.

There were also the engineers – "powerful people whose word tended to be law", said Sir Robert. "Decisions about infrastructure, rolling stock and locomotives were all seen as being engineering decisions, and they tended to get the blame for high cost".

Dr Beeching's period at the helm clearly made a profound impression on Sir Robert – "His strategic thinking about the future of the railways was a revelation". The swinging sixties, however, were not congenial to this harbinger of Thatcherism. Railway management was still dominated by the notion of being a transport monopoly with common carrier obligations.

It was rather as if Ataturk had been made mayor of Tunbridge Wells. After four short

years he was gone, the attempt to focus on marketing had only begun. Modern times proper began in 1982. "For the first time we knew what was expected of us", Sir Robert said – "to run an efficient service providing good value for money; to reduce the passenger grant; to increase private sector participation." BR was restructured into five accountable businesses, and the focus on the market place brought about a sharp improvement.

The historical part of Sir Robert's testament took up a good deal more time than the section in which he offered a view about what the priorities should be for the future. He sees enormous opportunities for BR in the single market and the opening of the Channel tunnel, but he is rightly preoccupied by the efforts of the French to make Charles de Gaulle Airport the hub of Europe, connected by new high speed trains to all parts of the Continent.

It is a challenge which he thinks can be met, but only if we expedite the British Parliamentary Bill procedures, make an early start on the Paddington-Heathrow rail link and find a way of financing the links from King's Cross and Waterloo to the Channel tunnel. "Government", he said, "has already made it clear that BR's investments can in certain circumstances be judged on the basis of cost benefit analysis. Let us hope they will use it to good effect in the next few years".

That was the point in his swan-song at which Sir Robert was most overtly critical of the Government. There have been suggestions from British Rail sources that there are a number of issues on which he feels rather more strongly. If that is so, he should seek an occasion to say clearly what they are before he hands over to his namesake in March. An admirer of Dr Beeching's has no need of winks and nods.

TURK AND BULGAR

Mr Mesut Yilmaz, the Turkish Foreign Minister, has blamed "remnants" of the ousted regime of Mr Todor Zhivkov for the anti-Muslim demonstrations sweeping through Bulgaria. That sounds like wishful thinking on his part.

Or perhaps he was simply being diplomatic. Today he meets his Bulgarian counterpart Mr Boyko Dimitrov in Kuwait in an attempt to settle Bulgaria's ethnic strife. With talks also under way now in Sofia between the parties involved in the dispute, Bulgaria's new Government would seem to be making strenuous efforts.

Mutual suspicion between Bulgaria's ruling Slavs and its 1,500,000 Muslim minority is deeply rooted. Since 1877, when the country won its independence from the Ottoman Empire, the Slavs have disliked and distrusted the ethnic Turks, as well as those Bulgars who had converted to Islam.

The present crisis had its origins five years ago. Mr Zhivkov's Brezhnevite Government in Sofia adopted a policy of forced assimilation. The Turks were ordered even to change their names – part of a campaign to eradicate their separate cultural and religious identity.

The reaction among the Muslims was predictable. Resentment bred a generation of young activists who led demonstrations which turned into street violence. Under the tightly controlled regime of Mr Zhivkov it was their only way of making their voices heard.

Against this background of rising fear and oppression, the Turks last year began an exodus from the country. Their belongings piled high on carts or on rusting trucks, they streamed across the frontier into Turkey, until even Ankara had to half-close its open door.

As many as 300,000 fled Bulgaria, creating pressures on homes and jobs in their new country. While the Sofia Government denied that they were being deported, it was guilty at

the very least of constructively expelling them. This came to an end with the fall of Mr Zhivkov. Four days after Christmas, his successors in Sofia announced an end to the assimilation programme. The Turkish minority would once more be free to practise their religion, speak their own language and retain their traditional names.

The angry reaction which developed within days reflects the bitter divisions in the country. Last week thousands of Bulgarians waving the red, white and green national flag and chanting "Bulgaria for the Bulgarians" protested in Sofia and seven more cities, demanding that the new policies be reversed, pending a national referendum on ethnic rights.

To their credit, both the communist Government and the democratic opposition in Sofia have rejected the demands. Four days of continuing strikes and demonstrations have, however, forced the Government to hold today's inter-communal talks in Sofia.

The Government must be encouraged to resist. Last year's flight by the frustrated Turks and other Muslims not only depleted Bulgaria's own workforce (creating significant problems in some areas) but further damaged Bulgaria's international reputation.

Britain and the United States were among those countries which condemned the Zhivkov regime for its intolerance. Not that Mr Zhivkov seemed to worry, secure as he was behind the closed frontiers and security apparatus of the Soviet bloc.

His successors, however, are exposed to the political and economic realities of a new Europe. They will find that they need aid and technical assistance if they are to make their way in a more open and competitive market. Much will depend on their dedication to reform. Bulgaria's people as well as its Government should know that.

Medical help for the Romanians

From Mr Nicholas Meller

Sir, With two friends on December 28 I delivered a tonne of medical supplies by van to one of the hospitals in Bucharest. Though it was impossible to get a clear picture of the medical priorities with the confusion and dramatic changes occurring in the city, it was obvious that there was a grave shortage in the hospitals I visited. These shortages appeared to be as much due to the legacy of a rundown health-care service as to the additional burden on the hospitals from the casualties of the revolution.

A number of factors hampered the relief effort in the early days of the emergency. These included the lack of an official host government to liaise with, uncertainty about the number of casualties, and snow storms which at times closed the airport and disrupted the already weak local distribution network.

The French response to the emergency was particularly impressive. They were amongst the first on the ground with their relief effort spearheaded by non-governmental organisations such as Médecins Sans Frontières and Médecins du Monde. These organisations sent in self-contained teams of medics with logistical support and medical supplies which were complementary to the official international relief effort. Although larger-scale and internationally coordinated, the official effort was inevitably slower and less flexible than the French.

Whilst putting together a team in the UK to get medical aid to the hospitals in Bucharest, I was in contact with the Foreign Office, the British Red Cross and the Overseas Development Administration, but found no UK organisation geared up to providing the immediate help that the French were so ready to give. However, the response of individuals who offered money, supplies and professional help was impressive.

This generous response raises the question as to how this good will could be better mobilized to enable the UK to respond more effectively to emergencies such as that which occurred in Romania. Yours faithfully,

NICHOLAS MELLOR,
Twilly Springs House,
West Hendred,
Wantage, Oxfordshire.

January 5.

Docklands problem

From the President of the Royal Town Planning Institute

Sir, I was a little irritated by Dr Andrew Church's attack on planners over the problems of the London Docklands (January 5). Dr Church had only to read your own columns to know that planners have been among the most severe critics of the Docklands had proceeded. For example, in an article on October 30 headed "London Docklands scheme an irredeemable failure", your Property Correspondent, Mr Christopher Warman, referred extensively to my own very direct criticisms expressed in a speech to the Docklands Forum.

The problem is not, as Dr Church alleges, that planners have "ignored the needs and priorities of Docklands residents and Londoners in general". The problem is that planners were not given the opportunity to ignore or to take account of these needs – they were excluded from the process right from the start. Despite this misunderstanding, I concur with Dr Church's general conclusions about the inappropriateness, impracticality, and inefficiency of the market-led process which we saw in Docklands in the early 1980s. Happily these lessons have been learnt, and the LDDC (London Docklands Development Corporation) is now operating much more sensibly and responsibly than once it did. Yours faithfully,

C. J. SHEPLEY,
Royal Town Planning Institute,
26 Portland Place, W1.
January 5.

The problem is not, as Dr Church alleges, that planners have "ignored the needs and priorities of Docklands residents and Londoners in general". The problem is that planners were not given the opportunity to ignore or to take account of these needs – they were excluded from the process right from the start.

As it is now, however, there are nuclear arsenals whose very existence must be exercising an unprecedented power for international peace. Perhaps, therefore, our first new year resolution should be to acknowledge with thankfulness the good which nuclear weapons do.

As it is now, however, there are nuclear arsenals whose very existence must be exercising an unprecedented power for international peace. Perhaps, therefore, our first new year resolution should be to acknowledge with thankfulness the good which nuclear weapons do.

As it is now, however, there are nuclear arsenals whose very existence must be exercising an unprecedented power for international peace. Perhaps, therefore, our first new year resolution should be to acknowledge with thankfulness the good which nuclear weapons do.

As it is now, however, there are nuclear arsenals whose very existence must be exercising an unprecedented power for international peace. Perhaps, therefore, our first new year resolution should be to acknowledge with thankfulness the good which nuclear weapons do.

As it is now, however, there are nuclear arsenals whose very existence must be exercising an unprecedented power for international peace. Perhaps, therefore, our first new year resolution should be to acknowledge with thankfulness the good which nuclear weapons do.

As it is now, however, there are nuclear arsenals whose very existence must be exercising an unprecedented power for international peace. Perhaps, therefore, our first new year resolution should be to acknowledge with thankfulness the good which nuclear weapons do.

As it is now, however, there are nuclear arsenals whose very existence must be exercising an unprecedented power for international peace. Perhaps, therefore, our first new year resolution should be to acknowledge with thankfulness the good which nuclear weapons do.

As it is now, however, there are nuclear arsenals whose very existence must be exercising an unprecedented power for international peace. Perhaps, therefore, our first new year resolution should be to acknowledge with thankfulness the good which nuclear weapons do.

As it is now, however, there are nuclear arsenals whose very existence must be exercising an unprecedented power for international peace. Perhaps, therefore, our first new year resolution should be to acknowledge with thankfulness the good which nuclear weapons do.

As it is now, however, there are nuclear arsenals whose very existence must be exercising an unprecedented power for international peace. Perhaps, therefore, our first new year resolution should be to acknowledge with thankfulness the good which nuclear weapons do.

As it is now, however, there are nuclear arsenals whose very existence must be exercising an unprecedented power for international peace. Perhaps, therefore, our first new year resolution should be to acknowledge with thankfulness the good which nuclear weapons do.

As it is now, however, there are nuclear arsenals whose very existence must be exercising an unprecedented power for international peace. Perhaps, therefore, our first new year resolution should be to acknowledge with thankfulness the good which nuclear weapons do.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Medical help for the Romanians

From Mr Malcolm Hill

Sir, One wonders why Lord Scarman ("Bill of Rights" that's ours for the taking", January 4) casts aside the Kilnour rules which command judicial silence on non-judicial matters; why he argues more by assertion than with evidence; and why he encourages British people, who have deliberately avoided pieces of paper as constitutional safeguards for centuries, to adopt the European Convention on Human Rights, which was cobbled together as a minimum constitutional code in 1950.

He lists rights covered in this Convention. It begins with the right to life and includes such important rights as the freedom from torture, inhuman or degrading treatment, slavery, forced labour, the right to liberty – whatever that means – and many other rights which were won by the people after centuries of struggle and are protected, first, by public understanding and, second, by law.

Is it that Lord Scarman wants to bring the judiciary more into centre stage, where it can fit with Parliament; or is it that he wants to entertain lawyers to the picnic which the Convention would offer them?

May if your readers could see part of the Convention, they could see what a poor document it is and contrast it with the great constitutional history of this isle, which is arguably the most precious national heritage. Yours faithfully,

MALCOLM HILL,
142 Lexham Gardens, W8.

January 4.

From Mr R. C. H. Briggs

Sir, In the sort of case that presently ends up in Strasbourg it is unlikely that the applicant would be content with anything less than a decision of the ultimate court. The crucial provision is the right of individual petition under the Convention, accepted by the United Kingdom in 1966 but by France not until 1981.

Taking into account differences in the size of populations of member states and in the time of their acceptance of the right of individual petition, there are as many petitions to Strasbourg from states which have incorporated the Convention as from those that have not.

The "disturbing record" of the United Kingdom consists of findings by the European Court of Human Rights of 21 violations of the Convention (to the beginning of last year) in 23 years. It should be borne in mind that not infrequently only one of a number of violations alleged in a petition is held by the court to be made out. Yours faithfully,

R. C. H. BRIGGS,
Campions, Stocksbridge Lane,
Coombe Bisset,
Salisbury, Wiltshire.

January 4.

War crimes trials

From the Executive Vice-President of the Union of Liberal and Progressive Synagogues

Sir, There is much agreement, even from leading jurists from our own community, that it will be difficult to give alleged war criminals a fair trial so many years after the holocaust.

However, Miss Amiel ("War crimes a flimsy case", January 3) commits an injustice against the members of Parliament who overwhelmingly supported the enabling legislation when she affirms that "the only harm that 'old Nazis' can do us is to force us to distort our system of justice in order to catch them".

Parliament has done no more than agree to enable the courts to bring to justice those who had become British citizens after their

alleged criminal action. It cannot be right that the attainment of the privilege of British citizenship should also include protection from prosecution for crimes for which they would have been liable had these been committed when they were citizens.

Whatever serious concerns we

may have in regard to the practical consequences of this legislation, the British Parliament had no option but to prevent the country which had been the most heroic in its defence against Nazi Germany from becoming a haven of refuge for its criminals.

Faithfully yours,

SIDNEY BRICHTO,

Executive Vice-President,
Union of Liberal and Progressive
Synagogues,

The Montagu Centre,

109 Whitfield Street, W1.

January 3.

Nuclear benefit

SOCIAL NEWS

Royal engagement

The Duke of Gloucester, as president, will attend the launch of Parents Against Tobacco 1990 at the London Press Centre at 11.04 today.

The Lord Elwyn-Jones

A Service of Thanksgiving for the life and work of The Lord Elwyn-Jones will be held in Westminster Abbey at noon on Thursday, February 8, 1990. Applications for tickets are to be made in writing to: The Assistant Receiver General (Protocol), Room 8, The Chapter Office, 20 Dean's Yard, Westminster Abbey, London, SW1P 3PA, enclosing a stamped addressed envelope, by not later than Tuesday, January 25. Tickets will be posted on Thursday, February 1. All are welcome to attend.

Luncheon

Management Consultancies Association
Sir Robert Haslam, Chairman of British Coal, was Guest of Honour at luncheon yesterday given by the Management Consultancies Association at the Cavalry and Guards Club. Mr David Miller, President of the Association, presided.

Dinners

Athenaeum
Dr Arthur Hollman was a speaker at a dinner discussion held last night at the Athenaeum. Sir Francis Avery Jones presided.

Cardiff Business Club

The Lord Lieutenant of South Glamorgan, Mrs Susan E. Williams, the High Sheriff of South Glamorgan, Mr Christopher L. Pollard, the Lord Mayor of Cardiff, Mrs Beti Jones, Sir Cennwyd Iarberian, President of Cardiff Business Club and Mr Brian Thomas, Chairman of Cardiff Business Club, were present at a dinner held by the Club at the Royal Hotel, Cardiff, last night. The Guest Speaker was Sir Colin Marshall, Deputy Chairman and Chief Executive, British Airways plc. Mr Prys Edwards, Chairman, Wales Tourist Board, presided.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr R.A. Scott and Miss P.J.P. Trehearne
The engagement is announced between Roderick, elder son of Mr and Mrs Donald Scott, of Wisborough Green, West Sussex, and Jane, daughter of Mr John Trehearne, of Tisbury, Gloucestershire, and The Hon. Lady Brinckman, of Cirencester, Gloucestershire.

Mr A.D. Peel and Miss C.P. Stainton
The engagement is announced between Angus David, third son of Dr and Mrs G.W.B. Peel, of Bridgwater, Somerset, and Clare Paula, youngest daughter of Sir Ross and Lady Stainton of Camberley, Surrey.

Mr J.M.B. Peel and Ms. M.D. Misker
The engagement is announced between Jeremy Michael Bryan, eldest son of Dr and Mrs G.W.B. Peel, of Bridgwater, Somerset, and Monika Dagmar, eldest daughter of Herrn and Frau G.W. Meier, of Karbach, West Germany.

Mr G.E. Baker and Miss L.C. Jackson
The engagement is announced between Guy Ernest, elder son of Mr and Mrs Lewis Baker, of Great Hallingbury, Essex, and Lynn Catherine, only daughter of Mr and Mrs James Jackson, of Tydesley, Lancashire.

Mr D.R. Bird and Miss G.M. Sollieck
The engagement is announced between David, only son of Mr and Mrs R.W. Bird, of 32 Glynalmond, Gillingdale, Northwich, Cheshire, and daughter of Mr Caroline Sollieck and the late Mr Christopher Sollieck, of Dornsey, Evesham Cross, Cheshire.

Mr M. Cox and Miss F.R. Walker
The engagement is announced between Merrily, younger son of Dr and Mrs J.J. Cox, of Kynnersley, Shropshire, and Fiona, younger daughter of Mr H. Walker, of Thorpe Mandeville, Northamptonshire, and Mrs C.M.G. Hendy, of Hatherage, Derbyshire.

Mr D.J. Crawley and Miss V.E.C. Proctor
The engagement is announced between David, only son of Mr and Mrs Brian Crawley, of Pickering, North Yorkshire, and Victoria, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Anthony Proctor, of Epstein Down, Surrey.

Mr D.C.L. Davidson and Miss F.J. Campbell
The engagement is announced between Cameron, eldest son of Mrs M.E.F. Davidson, of Edinburgh, and the late Mr W.F. Davidson, and Fiona, elder daughter of Dr and Mrs A.J.D. Campbell, of Littlebeck Hall, Gilstead, Bingley, Yorkshire.

Mr P.J. Follari and Miss L.M. Petosa
The engagement is announced between Pierre, only son of Mr Pierre Follari and the late Mrs Joan Follari, of London SW15, and Louise, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Michael F. Petosa, of New York.

Mr L. Hammond and Miss A.J.L. Boyes
The engagement is announced between Laurence, son of Mr and Mrs S. Hammond of Loughton, Essex, and Andrea, daughter of Mr and Mrs M. Boyce of St. Mellons, Cardiff.

Mr P.L. Haveland and Miss M.L. Watt
The engagement is announced between Peter, eldest son of Julian and Caroline Haveland, of Penger, London, and Madeline, younger daughter of Dennis and Ian Watt, of Lerwick, Shetland.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Charles Kortright, cricketer, Brentwood, Essex, 1871; Chaim Bialik, poet, Rady, Ukraine, 1873; John Watson, psychologist, Greenville, South Carolina, 1878; Lascelles Abercrombie, poet and critic, Ashton-upon-Mersey, 1881; Karl

School announcements

The Cheltenham Ladies' College

The term opens today at The Cheltenham Ladies' College. The half term is from Friday, February 16, (1.00 pm) to Wednesday, February 21, inclusive. The New Zealand Diocesan Choir will arrive in Cheltenham on Thursday, January 11, and will sing at a service in the Prince's Hall on Sunday, January 14, at 6.30 pm. The College Choir will sing Evensong in Bristol Cathedral at 5.15 pm on Thursday, February 22. The Combined Concert with Cheltenham College, a performance of Handel's *Sacred Concerto*, will take place at 7.30 pm on Saturday, March 11, at Cheltenham Town Hall. End of term, Saturday, March 24, after Leaving Prayers which take place at 10.00 am.

Chigwell School, Essex

Half Term and Chigwell School starts on 22 January and ends on March 23. Mr P.R. Bowden takes up his appointment as Master of the Junior School. The House Music Festival is on March 22. Harnett Scholarship examinations will be held on January 18. The Shrove Tuesday Supper is on February 27. Old Chigwellians who wish to attend should contact the Headmaster's Secretary.

Clifton College

Term begins today. John Hamby (School House) is Head of School and Richard Smith (Wiseman's House) Second Head of School. The Alberni String Quartet will be in residence from January 11-13. Confirmation by the Bishop of Bristol will be on Sunday, March 11. The premiere of *The Necessary Betrayal*, an Oratorio by Nigel Dodd, will be performed in the Chapel Hall on Sunday, March 18. The Modern Dance plays will feature works in Italian and French by Dario Fo and Moliere, and will be performed on March 14 and 15. Easter is from February 17 to 20 (inclusive) and term ends on March 23. The OC Reunion will be held on May 12 and 13, for those born between January 1, 1931, and December 31, 1937.

Leighton Park School, Reading Spring Term at Leighton Park School begins today and ends on Saturday 24th March. 1990 is the school's Centenary and this will be celebrated in both the Spring and Summer terms. Sir Leon Brittan will give a Centenary Lecture on January 23. Term ends March 23, 1990.

19, and the Anniversary of the School's foundation will be marked on January 20 when there will be a meeting for Thanksgiving and the opening of new School House.

The J.B. Hodgkin Speech Competition is on March 10 at 11.30 when the adjudicator will be Louis Blom-Cooper Q.C. *Jesus Christ Superstar* will be performed from March 15-17, and the Old Leighonian Centenary Dinner will be at the House of Commons on March 24. Any O.L. who has not received details of the Centenary celebrations should contact the School.

Reed's School, Cobham, Surrey Term begins today and ends on March 21. Andrew Nones is Captain of School. Peter Horne continues Vice Captain and will also be Captain of Hockey. *Staircase' Crucifixion* will be sung in Chapel on March 18. The Old Redmondian Dinner will be held at School on Friday, March 23.

Westminster School

Last Term begins today. There are 871 members of the School, 610 in the Great School and 261 in the Under School. Mr Andrew Baseman joins the Great School as Head of Art. *The Glass Menagerie* will be performed from January 31 to February 2 and *Le Jeu de l'Amour et du Hasard* will be from February 14 to 16. Easter is from February 8 to 13. The School Concert, Beethoven's *Choral Symphony* will be performed at St James's Piccadilly, on March 10, and in Westminster Abbey on March 15. The Tudor Concert will be given on February 22 by Dr Richard Dawkins. The Right Rev Edward Kasparek-Fisher will officiate at the Confirmation Service in the Abbey on February 23. Term ends March 16.

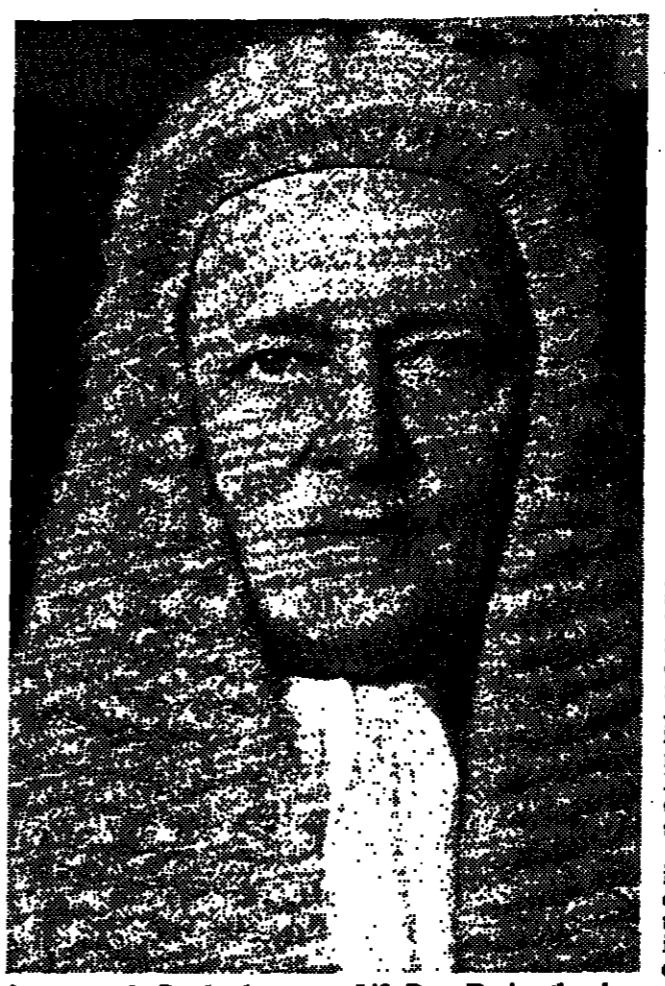
Wokingham School

The Spring Term begins on Tuesday, January 9, 1990. The Musician's competition is Head Girl with Gillian Croxley and Christine Stead as Deputy Head Girls. The following awards have been made for 1990-91: Wokingham Scholarships: Hannah Kiernan (Laverock School); Prudence Shelton (Graveline School); Woldingham Prize - Katrina Adam (Cophthorne School). A production of *West Side Story* is to be staged March 1-3, 1990. Term ends March 23, 1990.

OBITUARIES

LORD GARDINER

Reforming Labour Lord Chancellor who set out to humanize the law



Lord Gardiner, PC, CH, who died on January 7, aged 89, was one of the great reforming Lord Chancellors of the century. In the six years 1964-70, either as a result of his advocacy or with his enthusiastic support, the Ombudsman and Family Division of the High Court were created and capital punishment was abolished. He initiated moves for overhauling the machinery of the courts and was mainly responsible for setting up the Law Commission.

Though he was at one time one of the highest earners at the Bar, he tempered his skill at advocacy with a searching social conscience, eager to humanize the workings of the law while retaining an even-handed sense of justice. The Labour Party was the vehicle for achieving his ideals, but he was never dogmatic and his outward coolness sometimes disguised the passion of his beliefs. He was committed but never obsessed.

For someone who was once attracted to the stage as a rival to the Bar, he lacked histrionics both in his advocacy and his politics. He made little impact on the public. But in the end the policies he supported in the field of the law did — and for him that would have been preferable.

Gerald Austin Gardiner was born on May 30, 1900. He was educated at Harrow and at Magdalen College, Oxford; at the University he had the unusual distinction of becoming President both of the Union and of the OUDS. He was called to the Bar by the Inner Temple in 1925. As a youth he had acted in a West End production with Gerald Du Maurier, who thought highly of his talents, and the stage had lifelong appeal for him.

By the time war broke out in 1939, Gardiner had built up a flourishing junior practice. Something of his mental and spiritual development over the years could be seen from the fact that, having been commissioned in the Grenadier Guards at the end of the First World War, he served in the Friends' Ambulance Unit during the Second. He returned to his practice in 1945, took silk in 1948, and during the following 16 years achieved a commanding position at the Bar.

In Court he was fearless, tenacious and imperturbable. He was a master of the most important forensic gift of all — that of lucid exposition. As a speaker he was quiet, fluent and mellow; an experienced observer described his final speech for the defence in the *Lady Chatterley's Lover* case (perhaps the most famous of the many *causes célèbres* in which he appeared) as unique in legal history.

During this period Gardiner was earning one of the biggest

incomes at the Bar, but he was the last person to find fulfilment in the mere amassing of a fortune. He somehow found time to assist the causes which he had made his own.

He had joined the Labour Party before the war, but his active political experience was confined to a creditable "near-miss" when he contested the Conservative seat of West Croydon in 1951. He sat on the Lord Chancellor's Law Reform Committee; he became Chairman of the Society of Labour Lawyers and of the executive committee of Justice; for three years he was an Alderman of the London County Council; he served for a period as a director of the *New Statesman*. His passion for law reform found expression in one book which he wrote — *Capital Punishment as a Deterrent* (1956) and in another which he edited and to which he contributed — *Law Reform Now* (1964).

The abolition of the death penalty was perhaps the subject on which he felt most strongly of all. He was joint-Chairman (with Victor Gollancz) of the National Campaign for the Abolition of Capital Punishment and was equal satisfaction from all the variegated duties which belonged to the office. He was not only a politician, and he was ideologically perhaps less a socialist than an advanced and very independent radical.

In the field of law reform, on the other hand, he remained as zealous and as energetic in his 60s as he had been in his 40s. What he regarded as the shame of capital punishment was abolished. The laws concerning abortion and homosexuality were humanized. Other radical changes in the Criminal Law (notably the 1967 Criminal Justice Act and the 1968 Theft Act) reached the Statute Book. In December, 1963, on the nomination of Mr Harold Wilson, Gardiner was created

a Life Peer. During the election campaign of the following year, his clear and moderate exposition of the Labour case, on the platform and on television, was generally thought to have had considerable influence among uncommitted "intellectual" voters.

When, following his narrow victory at the polls, Mr Wilson became Prime Minister, it was entirely predictable that he should choose Gardiner to be the first man in modern times to fill the position without having previously sat either in the House of Commons or on the Bench.

Gardiner was Lord Chancellor for six eventful years from 1964 to 1970. It would be wrong to claim that he derived equal satisfaction from all the variegated duties which belonged to the office. He was not only a politician, and he was ideologically perhaps less a socialist than an advanced and very independent radical.

In spite of all this, Gardiner remained a strangely remote figure. To the disappointment of his admirers, he made little impact on the general political scene, and he remained to the end almost unknown to the general public. Perhaps his natural shyness, combined with his distaste for the trivia of party warfare, combined to bring this about. He was, in all his official contacts, courteous, approachable and receptive; there was no suggestion about him of *de haut en bas*, but there was also little impression of warmth. On the other hand, no one could have been more considerate towards his staff, more concerned with their welfare and conditions of work or more popular among them.

Gardiner always said that he would retire at 70, and that all holders of judicial office should do the same. In fact, a few days after his 70th birthday, as a result of the 1970 General Election, Labour went into opposition. It is pretty certain that Gardiner

was glad to retire when he did. He had worked immensely hard for the whole of his adult life, and he welcomed the prospect of a period of comparative leisure — especially as his departure from the Woolpack coincided almost exactly with his second marriage.

He continued for a time to sit on the Opposition Front Bench in the Lords, but in 1971 he departed to the back benches, saying that he hoped to introduce some Bills of his own, "and even have some fun".

He continued to speak often, vigorously and eloquently, in debates in the House, and outside it, on the many subjects about which he felt strongly — criminal justice, penal reform, prison conditions, immigration and civil liberties among them. A number of organisations sought, and were enthusiastically given, the benefit of his experience and expertise. He was the chairman of the Justice Committee whose proposals were to lead to the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974, which allowed minor offenders to lead their lives unburdened by their previous criminal record. He subsequently became Chairman of Justice. Among his other offices, he was elected to membership of the International Commission of Jurists and was President of the Howard League for Penal Reform. Only failing health curtailed his active participation on behalf of causes in which he believed.

The affairs of Northern Ireland claimed his attention on two occasions. In 1972 he served on a government-appointed committee inquiring into the questioning of terrorist suspects. His minority opinion that the methods of interrogation then being used by the security forces were unacceptable, was to have greater impact than the less critical view expressed by the committee's other two members. In 1975 in his conclusion, as chairman of another government committee, that detention without trial was justified in the circumstances then prevailing in the Province, came as a surprise to some of his supporters.

Nothing so demonstrated Gardiner's continuing wide-ranging interests and curiosity during his years of retirement as his decision to embark on a course of further study. His appointment as Chancellor of the Open University in 1973 was accompanied by his registration for the degree of Bachelor of Arts, which he was awarded in 1977.

In 1925 Gardiner married Lesley Trotman, who died in 1966; they had one daughter. In 1970 he married Mrs Muriel Box, who survives him.

TERRY-THOMAS

Lovable star of nonsense comedy films



Terry-Thomas, the actor and comedian who played the "silly ass" Englishman in dozens of films, died yesterday, aged 78 after a long battle against Parkinson's Disease.

He first became widely known through television in the early 1950s and was one of the first stars to be made by that medium. His trademarks were a gap in the front of his teeth, cigarette holder, ornate waistcoat and carnation and a drawing upper-class voice that used words like "rotter" and "stinker" with great relish and even made "good show!" into a national catchphrase. Once established, the character changed little but it transferred so successfully to the cinema that Terry-Thomas became an international film star, much in demand in the United States and on the European continent.

His first starring film was *The Boulting Brothers' Private's Progress* in 1956 and in it Terry-Thomas, as the CO, described his men as "an absolute shower," a phrase that was to stay with him. For about five years he was an indispensable part of British film comedy and his credits over this period included

Eventually the vogue for

this sort of film passed but by the time it did Terry-Thomas had moved from being a purely British actor into the international arena. He made his first American film, *Bachelor Flat*, in 1961, and four years later had one of his best parts, as Jack Lemmon's valet in the black comedy, *How to Murder Your Wife*. He was also a frequent performer on American television, appearing with Danny Kaye, Judy Garland, Andy Williams and others; but a return to the BBC in 1968 with a series called *The Old Campaigner* had only a modest impact.

In the cinema, meanwhile, his speciality was becoming the small "guest" role which meant that he was turning up in half a dozen or more pictures a year. Few were memorable but among the better known were *The Wonderful World of the Brothers Grimm*, *It's a Mad, Mad, Mad, Mad World* and, in Britain, *Those Magnificent Men in Their Flying Machines*. In the late 1960s he moved to Ibiza and started, in effect, a

new career in French and Italian films, often appearing with the French comic actor, Bourvil.

His career was interrupted by illness in the 1970s but he returned to play the prison governor in *The Last Remake of Beau Geste* and the villain, Mortimer, in the 1977 version of *The Hound of the Baskerville*, with Peter Cook and Dudley Moore.

But Parkinson's Disease eventually forced him to give up acting and abandon his substantial properties in Spain. Bills for medical treatment ate up his capital and by the mid-1980s he was living in a small flat in south-west London provided by a church charity.

When his plight became known show business colleagues put on a benefit show for him at the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane in April 1989, though he was too ill to attend.

His first marriage to the dancer Ida Patulski was dissolved in 1962. By his second wife, Belinda, he had two sons, Tiger and Cushman.

THE ARTS

When it
is right to
cry wolfTELEVISION
Jasper Rees

No one would suggest that anything needs changing in the way BBC Bristol's Natural History Unit makes programmes, but a new conservation series called *Survivors* (BBC 1) has come at nature from a new direction - the animal's camera angle.

For some of last night's first episode, the lens pretended to see things the way wolves do, in particular a small pack of them which 10 years ago miraculously cropped up in a part of Sweden, quite far south, where wolves had not been seen for decades, and which soon found itself confronting human prejudice from the wrong end of a gun.

Though different resonances will clearly have to be found in subsequent programmes on locusts, newborn kangaroos, bald eagles and mahogany trees, the effect sought and found in "The Wolf Saga" was to reverse the roles assigned to man and beast in cheap werewolf horror flicks. With a soundtrack of heavy panicking breathing accompanying the camera's trek through the scrubby forest undergrowth, the wolf's eyerview was implicitly that of the hunted as opposed to the hunter.

A nature film whose subject is, for much of the duration, the one thing removed from the viewer's vision has its limitations, and this film also relied, like any other, on the more conventional traits of the genre - an expanse of beautiful landscape, spectacular fauna and fowl. But the emphasis was less on prettiness than polemic. Lurking facts that tend not to see the light of day (in Sweden the bear is statistically more lethal than the wolf, for example) combined in Stephen Mills's edifying film to re-cast man in a role he must be getting used to by now - that of monster.

In a report on apartheid in South African sport, *World in Action* (ITV) was unable to guarantee a cosier fate for Mike Gatting's krugerrand cricketers, soon to begin their rebel tour, than that which the wolves have suffered in Sweden.

Returning clandestinely to his homeland, where he has not been welcome for over 20 years, to look into the claims that South African cricket has put its own house in order, the anti-apartheid activist Peter Hain came up with what looked like irrefutable images of sporting segregation: the cricket pitch at Hain's old school, for example, was green and pleasant; the nearby pitch for non-whites was a grey gravel dustbowl. Though the programme began with Gatting professing his faith in sport without politics, here was evidence that in the country to which he has sold his wares the two are, at the most basic level, indivisible.

TOMORROW

Fresh Eye at the NT:
Richard Eyre talks
to Sheridan Morley

Television reviewer Jasper Rees in vain search of good, new, British television humour

No laughing matter

Until Yule and the tide of Eighties retrospectives intervened, December had been a typical month for television comedy: the funniest new jokes were American and the funniest old ones were British. *One Night Stand*, the one-man-and-a-microphone Home Box Office series, and the Friday-night double bill of *Empty Nest* and *Golden Girls*, all of them transatlantic imports on Channel 4, were hitting a spot that the current native shows are missing.

The exceptions, and this is the root of the problem, are in alternative comedy. Conceived as a riposte to the stand-up banality of Jimmy Tarbuck and his like, alternative comedy has not only usurped it but also gone on to replace good sitcom as the best of British on television. The snag is that its humour caters for a much more specific audience than, say, *The Good Life* or *The Fall and Rise of Reginald Perrin*, the likes of which had a monopoly on fine comic acting and scriptwriting 10 or 12 years ago.

Alternative comedy, as last year's twentieth anniversary celebrations stressed, began with Monty Python, but its real efflorescence was in the decade we have just spent a whole month saying good-bye to. First there was *Not The Nine O'Clock News*, which launched Atkinson, Smith and Jones and then *A Kick up the Eighties*, a short-lived Richard Stilgoe vehicle which gave Rik Mayall, in the person of the witness Brummie investigator Kevin Turvey, his first chance on television.

Both Mayall and Atkinson went on to find excellent helpmates in Ben Elton and Richard Curtis, who scripted the squat-com *The Young Ones* and the incomparable *Blackadder*, while 10 years on the Smith and Jones act profitably continues to expand. Although Atkinson, with the help of slightly silly forays such as the recent Thames "silent" comedy *Mr Bean*, has acquired widespread appeal, one cannot necessarily say the same of his co-creator.

At the end of the decade there is no long-running mainstream comedy to rival the by now means consistently funny performances of the Comic Strip generation - French & Saunders, Hale & Pace, Lenny Henry, Ade Edmondson, and so on. This dearth presumably explains why *The Last of the Summer Wine* has for several years occupied the august mid-Sunday-evening slot on BBC1, a pride of place its stock of dreamily genric jokes has never deserved, and why the dismal *Allo 'Allo and *Hi-de-Hil** have enjoyed an unearned popularity. This bizarre state of affairs has come about because, for those viewers unresponsive to the marginalism of Ben Elton and his ilk, there is not a lot of choice.

With minimum enterprise, however, the BBC has created a choice by making inordinate space in its schedules for what it calls "Comedy Classics" - what a mischievous (or honest) announcement might introduce with "And now



The Rise and Fall of Reginald Perrin (top) with John Barron (left), Pauline Yates and Leonard Rossiter: a decade ago, "fine comic acting and scriptwriting"; Victoria Wood (centre), "the funniest woman on television"; hitting the spot, *Channel Four's The Golden Girls* (above)

for something completely familiar". Take Monty Python, for example, which was once completely different. The BBC is currently dredging up a big chunk of the *Flying Circus* back catalogue. Recent weeks have also seen an unscrupulous *Dad's Army* back on duty, despite the passing-away of several of its principals: *Some Mothers Do 'Ave 'Em*.

though its star Michael Crawford long ago moved on, is going strong; and the *Two Ronnies* have also had yet another re-run.

By giving its viewers "another chance to see . . .", the BBC acknowledges the current dearth of good comedy. It gets away with it because British viewers have a limitless appetite for nostalgia, it used to be Granada, dishing out

Black humour lost in translation

THEATRE

Diane Hill

Woza Albert!
Bouffes de Nord, Paris

One of the penalties of being a director as exceptional as Peter Brook is that you are condemned to brilliance. Anything less is inevitably seen as second-best. By most standards, his French production of the South African play *Woza Albert!* premiered in Paris, is good theatre. Rated according to Brook's own track record, however, it falls a long way short of great theatre. Complacent excellence hovers over the performance pit that Brook has carved out of the eroded splendours of this illustrious building.

Mtwa, Ngeme and Simon's now nine-year-old anti-apartheid tale of a Second Coming by jumbo jet, that ends with Christ blighted by whites as a communist terrorist and Cape Town in post-nuclear ruins, due to an administrative error, rams home its shamefully still valid message with home truths baked within a chocolate custard pie. Brook's knowing direction, with its impeccable, polished precision, reshapes the play's effective farce mechanism into a more cerebral machine.

Primitive outrage is honed deftly into reasoned injustice. The authors' heavily-accented, biblical, knockabout verbal humour, best delivered with the force of a gold-miner's steel-capped working boot, is skilfully ill-shod in the calskin-sof sophistication of Carrière's studied adaptation.

Whether it was true to the Market Theatre's original production or not, the Temba Theatre Company's recent London revival was founded on authenticity. The language rang true and Alby James's direction poked you in the eye while tickling you under the chin. The performers sucked you inside their black skin and defied you to laugh your way out of it.

In this production, the work's essential ethnic ebullience is tamed by white man's syntax, its



Fine actors, under-used: Mamadou Dioume (left) and Bakary Sangare

defiance paled by received, not lived, South African imagery. The handful of props - a rough-hewn wooden pallet, a scatter of house bricks and a couple of industrial plastic buckets - evoke not emotional minimalism but an impoverished emptiness that serves to clip the wings of an audience's own free-flying imagination.

Despite, or perhaps because of, its strong African connections, France has no black theatre and few black performers. *Woza*'s two-man cast, Mamadou Dioume (from Senegal) and Bakary Sangare (from Mali) met Brook when he was on one of his cultural safaris in Africa, and he cast them for his Indian epic *The Mahabharata*. They are undoubtedly fine actors and a welcome addition to the French theatre scene. This production, however, does not give them the means to unleash the best of themselves.

Constrained within the staid shallows of the direction, they are unable to plunge naturally into the play's more serious depths, nor to frolic unselfconsciously into the invigorating breakers of its pointed humour. The act of smearing a streak of white on their nose to signify white authority is an awkward, theatrically clumsy gesture that requires fumbling in a pocket for a tube of grease-paint and ducking behind whatever is to hand, to put it on or wipe it off.

Woza Albert! is the final plum in a short season of South African music and theatre at this address. Organized within the framework of a celebration of the year of the Rights of Man and Liberty, with patrons including Madame la Présidente, Danièle Mitterrand, the play's entry into the French repertoire is an event that does not live up to its impressive credentials.

Hint of hibernation

CONCERTS
Hilary FinchLSO/Hickox
Barbican Hall

fire. Stephen Roberts, like the composer himself, was most inspired in the intimate address of George Herbert's "Festival".

Something of the consolatory piety of Vaughan Williams' Christmas found its way, alas, into Carl Orff's "Secular songs for soloists and chorus with instruments and magical pictures". Perhaps it needs too great a leap of the imagination to set the cap of spring at a time of natural hibernation. It was certainly a leap which, despite some festive and enthusiastic orchestral playing, neither Hickox nor his chorus seemed willing to make.

Articulation was clear enough, but rhythm sagged somewhat under the soft Italianate tones, and though energy was concentrated too much in the vocal regions and not enough in the diaphragm, Stephen Roberts was simply misused: the verbal purity and neat phrasing at which he is skilled is no substitute for sheer range and projection.

If Hickox held back from enjoying the swinging rhythms and cross-currents of Orff's dance and delight, at least two of his soloists, James Bowman as the swan and Penelope Winstone-Clark as the siren-clad girl, relished their contributions.

New year, new works

Sean Doran
New Vintage 1990
Amsterdam

approach also brought a pianist and well balanced sound that was faithful to the three composers.

The 10-minute premiere of *Slinger* (Friedländer) proved disappointing. Certainly it was confidently written in the atmospheric dodecaphonic style, and eruditely furnished with the familiar accompanying effects of that style: hanging harmonics (here creating a most uninspiring opening) and Webern-like bouncing of the bow above quietly-held chords. When excitement came, it was generated by some razor-sharp, raucous, rhythmical snapping between the instruments, and some well constructed melodic lines.

But none of these proceeded further than their historical precedents. Absent were ideas for instrumental idiosyncrasies, counterpoint or even harmonic colour, all usually essential to Gerard Gertens's style. *Slinger* provides us with much angular, building and neurotic but little musical meaning or argument.

After an over-sedate performance of Mozart's *Divertimento* in E flat, KV563, it was Schoenberg's *String Trio* of 1946 that proffered the smelting salts of his partly-hidden tongue-in-cheek humour masks the reality of the composer's premonition of his own death at the time of writing. The Ter Haar/Van Els trio relayed this superbly, though again the emphasis was on seriousness and sadness, whereas there is scope for humour in this piece. The next concert and premiere in the series is on March 15.

Return proves the wisdom of choice

Noël Goodwin
Barbican Piano Trio
Purcell Room

which was convincingly provided in each player's passionately articulated contribution.

The cellist's strong attack and richly resonant yet finely graded tone was also heard in the *Trio Strophes* composed by Heinz Delibes in tribute to Paul Sacher. It covers a wide range of cello technique, and was here commanding played from memory.

A corresponding violin solo, featured Sophie Barber in the *Blagrove Variations* Martin Boulter wrote as a stylistic challenge for competition entrants, an abstraction of American regional music into cheerfully allusive elements, vividly projected.

All three players came together only at the beginning and end. In its three-movement focus on melodic, harmonic and rhythmic elements in turn, Hugh Wood's finely crafted *Piano Trio* of 1984 acquired greater elation and swinging vitality than when I last heard it five years ago, and the degree of sheer hard work needed to realize the venerable but richly resourceful *Trio* (1911) by Charles Ives was forthcoming to good purpose.

Misplaced enthusiasm

Stephen Pettitt
Premiere Ensemble/
Wigglesworth
St John's

The Premiere Ensemble prides itself on being an orchestra with the probably unique policy of playing a new work in every concert it gives. On the face of it the idea is excellent, though a complementary group dedicated to giving second and third performances might also be useful. In the case of Nigel Clarke's *Rain Dance*, the piece which the Ensemble chose to reveal to the world on Sunday, further performances might reveal to a few more the emptiness that lies underneath its extravagance of notes.

Clarke writes energetically, and he is fluent, perhaps even overwrought, with the entire gamut of orchestral effects - twitters, rumbles, harmonics, clusters, splashes of percussion and all. Yet these things are strung together without a mind for anything save the immediate moment. The qual-

GLORIOUSLY FUNNY
DAILY EXPRESS

PATRICIA SIMON HODGE CADELL
NOËL AND GERTIE

Words and Music by NOËL COWARD
"Patricia Hodge is a Dream Creature" *The Times*

Simon Cadell is Superb *Exquisite* *TODAY*

Sophisticated, Sparkling, Brilliant and Beguiling *SUNDAY TIMES*

COMEDY THEATRE
Farringdon Street, London, EC1
01 930 2578, 01 839 1456, 741 9999
or 24hrs with booking fee 01 240 7200, 379 4444

مكتبة من الأصل

FASHION by Liz Smith

Wild and woolly warmers



Knit one of these stylish, double-thick designs in Jaeger pure wool in just two weeks with our free, exclusive pattern booklet

Let it freeze! The new fashion season brings with it a breath of crisp fresh air and the promise of a blizzard of fashionably chunky new sweaters in which to stay warm. Long and low, the sloppy joe is unquestionably the sweater of the season, a stylish tunic that conforms to the chic concept of functional dress and can be pulled on comfortably over a snug layer of tights, vest, leggings and T-shirt. Ruggedly textured and relaxed in shape — mostly straight up and down, with a simple funnel-shaped collar that can be elongated to a hood, if it also happens to be easy and quick to knit, the chic end-product of a few long evenings spent at home.

Knitwear designer Angela King was commissioned by *The Times* to create some fast-to-knit patterns that incorporate dashing checks and bold tweed effects, and she came up with one bright idea after another. Her three exclusive knitting designs are emphatically patterned in monochromatic black and cream, and sport the added hood or cowl (detached in two of the styles) that reflect the "relaxed" locker-room "sweatshirt" design ethos of 1990. They are worked in a double thickness of wool that makes them remarkably quick to knit. Apart from the ease and exuberance that this added weight provides, it also makes them hard-wearing.

These are all thoroughly modern, sophisticated designs, with nothing folksy or homespun about them. There is status, and considerable satisfaction, too, in wearing something that has been worked by hand. Even the

A contemporary style is featured by Peter Barnes in *Alannah's Winter Knitwear*, a collection of six designs for women, men, children, and babies, with a variety of textures and patterns, including cable-knit, ribbed, and plain-knit designs.

All three designs can be worked in a double thickness of wool, and are suitable for both men and women.

These are all sophisticated designs, with nothing folksy about them.

Inevitable quirkiness that results adds to the energetic spirit of these three sweaters.

The straightforward sloppy joe is worked in graphic hound's-tooth check with a plain roll-neck. The extra tube of knitting doubles as a cowl hood, even a muff. A neat and very un-sloppy, cropped, turtle-neck sweater is worn with matching short-sleeved skirt that flares from a ribbed waistband, and has a separate, buttoned, helmet-style hood. Hands can be sunk comfortably into the deep pockets let into the seams of the chunky checked jacket which, with its square-set sleeves and sharp-angle hood, looks like a mink, especially if toggles and tops replace the large buttons and buttonholes.

Much of the sophistication of these three designs depends on the play of strong contrasts and textures, which work best in black and cream, as here.

When something comes into fashion everyone wants it straight away, and any one of these sweaters can be completed in under two weeks," says. "Even beginners can be encouraged quickly." She claims that the cropped sweater and skating skirt can be tackled by any



beginner who can cast on and understand purl and plain. It is worked in simple stocking stitch and single ribbing. "The most difficult is the hooded duffel style in the big checks," she says, "but as only two colours are used anyone who has mastered a basic Fair Isle stitch can do it. The hound's-tooth pattern needs

precision, but no chart is necessary as the pattern is built around one row of 'k1 black, k3 cream', with the three subsequent rows that complete the pattern being variations on this stitch."

Knitted in Jaeger Sport pure new wool, which costs £1.69 for a 50g ball, the hooded jacket works out the most



Top: Giant hound's-tooth check sloppy joe sweater with roll neck and separate funnel hood that doubles as a muff. Requires 27 x 50g balls (including hood), £45.63

Centre: Tweed sweater with turtle neck, 20 x 50g balls (including separate hood), £33.80; short flared skating skirt on ribbed waistband, 5 x 50g balls, £34.45. Brown leather laced-up ankle boots, £47.50, Cabbie & Co, 48 South Molton Street, W1 and branches

Below: Prince of Wales check hooded jacket with pointed hood and deep pockets, 33 x 50g balls, £55.77

All knitted in black/cream double thickness Jaeger Sport pure new wool, £1.69 per 50g ball, at John Lewis, House of Fraser, Dickins & Jones, W1; Harrods, SW1. For free knitting patterns (three-in-one booklet) send large (A4) SAE to *The Times/Jaeger Handknitting International*, PO Box 10, Alice, Scotland. Telephone inquiries: 0259 723431

Hair and make-up by Wendy Sadd for Schumi. Photographs by ANTHONY CRICKMAY

HOTLINE

Designs on a bargain

The serious bargains in high-priced designer clothes can be found in the second round of the sales. Any investment in Ralph Lauren's, Armani's or Saint Laurent's dateless classics is rewarded by years of wear. Many prices are down by a half in YSL's Bond Street and Sloane Street shops (wool capes £202, from £505; tweed skirts, £100 from £250; tweed jackets £254 from £635). A long tartan kilt at Ralph Lauren (sale starts Saturday) is £119, down from £195. Edina Romany handknitted Fair Isle sweaters are down to £150 from £248 in her King's Road and Burlington Arcade shops. At Emporio Armani, wool coats are £315, down from £450, and at Karl Lagerfeld suits are £270, from £695; shoes £40, from £155. Mulberry in Gieves Court, W1, (sale starts Thursday) will cut many prices by half; a traditional double-breasted raincoat is marked down to £171 from £245.

• The new term at *Liberty's* successful Sewing School starts on January 16. The school offers one-day workshops from 10.30am to 5.30pm, or five-week courses of two-and-a-half hours a week. The courses cater for everyone from beginners to those who want to polish up techniques or learn new skills. Write to *Liberty Sewing School*, Regent Street, London W1R 6AH for registration forms (01-734 1234).

Plastic passion

Plastic was hailed as the fabric of the 21st century in the futuristic Sixties. In 1990 the V & A brings plastic fashion up to date with an exhibition that links Paco Rabanne's famous Sixties chain mail and vinyl minidresses, and Mr Freedom's wet-look "bingo" jacket, to Red or Dead's see-through wedding dress for spring 1990.

"Plastics in Dress" opens on January 15 in Gallery 40 in the V & A's Dress Collection, to celebrate "The Plastics Age", the major exhibition opening in the Twentieth-Century Gallery on February 14.



COLIN BARNES

• Among the prettiest all-in-ones that supply a warmth-trapping first layer is this lace-trimmed, striped body from Fenwick. In pale blue or pink and white polyester, cotton and Lycra (a Spandex blend that ensures a fit like a second skin), and priced at £37.95, it is part of a snug set of undergarments by Capucine. A long vest (also £37.95), soft bra (£21.95) and deep-cut brief (£16.95) complete the set.

Other pretty first layers include the Swiss company Hanno's short-sleeved bodies in sleek cotton at £19.95, or wool long-sleeved vests at £31.95, available at Fenwick. Damart's new sprig-printed camisole (£8.50) and knickers (£7.99), as well as its silk and Thermolactyl lace-trimmed vests and knickers, priced from £8.99, are available by post from Damart, Bingley, West Yorks BD9 7AD.



Living in a rotted shack is bad enough. When you're blind it can be fatal.

Your £10 can restore her sight.

This woman and thousands like her suffer from cataracts of both eyes. It's a blinding disease which makes her totally dependent on others.

But she doesn't have to be. For as little as £10 she can have the simple operation she needs to remove the cataracts and restore her sight. You can give the gift of sight by giving just £10.

Help the Aged, St. James's Walk, London EC1R 0BE.

I want to give the gift of sight

£5.00 (Shares the cost of a cataract operation)

£10.00 (Pays for a cataract operation to restore sight in both eyes)

£20.00 (Pays for cataract operations to restore sight for two people in both their eyes)

Money is also needed for tackling some of the causes of blindness — malnutrition, poverty and bad hygiene. I enclose my cheque/postal order for £ to Help the Aged, Project 900601 FREEPOST, London EC1R 1BD

Name (Mrs, Miss, Ms, Mr, etc.)

Address:

Postcode:

Help the Aged

THE TIME TO CARE IS NOW

DEPT T/T 9
GIVAN'S
IRISH LINEN STORES LTD
207, KING'S ROAD, LONDON SW3 5ED
Please send for free
JANUARY SALE CATALOGUE

INFORMATION SERVICE

This selective guide to entertainment and events throughout Britain appears from Monday to Friday, followed in the Review section on Saturday by a preview of the week ahead. Items should be sent to The Times Information Service, PO Box 7, 1 Virginia Street, London E1 9XN

BOOKING KEY
★ Seats available
★ Returns only
(D) Access for disabled

THEATRE
LONDON

★ ANYTHING GOES: Elaine Paige getting a kick out of Cole Porter's hit musicals, comedy, romance, intrigue and "You're the Top". Prince Edward Theatre, Old Compton St, W1 (01-734 8551). Tube: Leicester Sq. Mon-Sat 7.30-8.45pm, mats Thurs and Sat 2.30-4.45pm, 29-222. (D)

★ BENY: Ian McEwan, Michael Cusman in revival of Martin Sherman's powerful drama of the Nazi persecution of homosexuals.

Men and Women (Lyttelton), South Bank, SE1 (01-922 2222). Tube: Waterloo. In preview, Mon-Sat 7.30pm. Opens Jan 15, 7pm then in rep. Previews and Sat mats 2.30-2.50pm; eves from Jan 19 2.15-3.30. All weekdays.

★ BOOTS FOR THE FOOTLESS: Brian Behan's Irish comedy set mostly in 1951 London, year of the Festival of Britain. Tricycle Theatre, 269 Kilburn High Rd, NW5 (01-328 1000). Tube: Kilburn. Mon-Sat 8pm, mats 4pm, 2.45pm, 29-222. (D)

★ FUNNY PECULIAR: Robin Kerrod, Hilary Cresswell, Jilly Johnson in cheering revival of Mike Scott comedy about how to gingerly play a state of mind. Men and Women (Lyttelton), South Bank, SE1 (01-922 2222). Tube: Waterloo. In preview, Mon-Sat 7.30pm. Opens Jan 15, 7pm then in rep. Previews and Sat mats 2.30-2.50pm; eves from Jan 19 2.15-3.30. All weekdays.

★ OUR COUNTRY'S GOOD: Tom Stoppard's political comedy about the Wertherbauer, a man in New South Wales in which a batch of cowboys is ordered to become actors.

Garrick Theatre, Charing Cross Rd, EC2 (01-378 8107). Tube: Leicester Sq. Mon-Sat 8-10.30pm, Fri and Sat 8.15-10.30pm, mats Fri and Sat 5.20pm, 27-212. (D)

★ THE PELICAN: Second in this theatre's occasional series of Strindberg's chamber plays: this one melodramatised, perverted mother-love.

Gate Theatre, Purcell's Yard, WC2 (01-922 0709). Tube: Covent Garden. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, Fri and Sat 8pm, 29-222. (D)

LONG RUNNERS: ★ Cats: New London Theatre (01-405 0072) ... Les

Liaisons/Damnedmusic: Ambassador Theatre (01-636 5111) ... ★ Me and My Girl: Adelphi Theatre (01-240 7813) ... ★ The Merchant of Venice: Trafalgar (01-434 0009) ... ★ The Mountebank: St Martin's Theatre (01-636 1443) ... ★ The Phantom of the Opera: Her Majesty's Theatre (01-639 2244) ... ★ Rain for Your Wife: National Theatre (01-587 1119) ... ★ Starlight Express: Apollo Victoria (01-828 8885).

OUT OF TOWN

FARNHAM: ★ Medlife: New musical based on the engagingly bright five-year-old heroine of Fawlty's recent tale. Redgrave Theatre, Brightwells (0252 727301), tonight 7pm, 29-222.

★ FILMS

■ Also on national release

■ Advance booking possible

■ BACK TO THE FUTURE II (PG): Over-inflated sequel to the 1985 hit, with Michael J. Fox and Christopher Lloyd (108 min).

Cannon Baker Street (01-355 9772), Progs 2.10, 5.25, 8.10. Late Fri, Sat 11.00. (Closed Sun).

Empire (01-437 2636), Progs 2.00, 6.00, 8.15. (Closed Sun).

Empire (01-437 1234), Progs 1.15, 3.45, 6.15, 8.45. Late Fri, Sat 11.00. (Closed Sun).

Whitley's (01-792 3303), Progs 11.00, 1.30, 4.30, 7.15, 9.45. (Closed Sun).

THE COOK, THE THIEF, HIS WIFE & HER LOVER (18): Peter Greenaway's tale of love, revenge and *haut cuisine*. With a cast of Englishmen. Screen on the Green Street (01-355 2772), Progs 3.10, 8.00, 8.35.

Caron Piccadilly (01-437 3561), Progs 2.00, 5.00, 8.00.

Rex (01-837 8402), Progs 1.10, 3.35, 6.05, 8.40.

■ DEAD POETS SOCIETY (PG): Robin Williams as an English teacher who instils his pupils with a dangerous love of poetry.

Odeon Kensington (01-602 5193), Progs 1.15, 2.35, 5.30 (not Sun), 8.30 (not Sun). Late Fri, Sat 11.15. Screen on Baker Street (01-925 2772), Progs 2.15, 5.50, 8.30. Late Sat 11.15.

Whitley's (01-792 3303), Progs 11.00, 1.30, 4.30, 7.15, 9.45. (not Sun).

THE DELINQUENTS (12): A routine story of delinquent teenagers in the Finches with Kylie Minogue. (01-370 2636).

Progs 2.15, 6.15, 9.15.

Cannon Oxford Street (01-636 0310), Progs 12.45, 3.20, 5.55, 8.40.

THE DREAM TEAM (13): Medcap adventures of four mental hospital patients let loose on Manhattan (113 min).

Cannon Finsbury (01-370 2636), Progs 1.45, 6.10, 9.20. (not Sun).

Cannon Oxford Street (01-636 0310), Progs 12.35, 3.10, 5.45, 8.25.

Progs 1.45, 6.10, 9.20. (not Sun).

Whitley's (01-792 3303), Progs 11.00, 1.30, 4.30, 7.15, 9.45. (not Sun).

GHOSBUSTERS II (PG): In which the team rid Manhattan of a devilish slime. (108 min).

TOP 10 UK SINGLES

1 (8) Hangin' Tough

New Kids on the Block, CBS

2 (2) When You Come Back to Me

Jason Donovan, PWL

3 (3) Get a Life

Soul II Soul, 10 Records

4 (5) Do They Know It's Christmas?

Band Aid II, PWL

5 (5) Dear Jessie

Madonna, Sire

6 (2) Touch Me

48ers, Fourth & Broad

7 (6) The Magic Number

De La Soul, Big Life

8 (11) Got to Get

Lata featuring R&B 'n' Rap, Arista

9 (7) Lambada

Chris Rea, WEA

10 (20) Listen to Your Heart

Sonic, Chrysalis

TOP 10 UK ALBUMS

1 (1) But Seriously

Phil Collins, Virgin

2 (3) Enjoy Yourself

Kylie Minogue, PWL

3 (2) The Best of ... The Album

Jive Bunny, Tuff Gong

4 (5) Foreign Affairs

Tina Turner, Capitol

5 (4) Ten Good Reasons

Jason Donovan, PWL

6 (5) Hangin' Tough

Lisa Stansfield, Arista

7 (6) Affection

Chris Rea, WEA

8 (7) The Road to Hell

Wet Wet Wet, Precious Organization

9 (9) Holding Back the River

Madonna, Sire

10 (10) Like a Prayer

Schoenberg's *Klavierstücke* Op 11, and,

Compiled by Gallup for Music Week/BBC/EPIC

The American poet, La Loca (above), known as "the crazy woman", stops off in London tonight en route to the US from Eastern Europe to give a reading of her work at the ICA (see Other Events). La Loca's first visit to Britain last year to the National Review of Live Art at Glasgow's Third Eye Centre was met with considerable acclaim. Born in Hollywood, La Loca gave her first poetry reading at the legendary Lhasa Club and won the Academy of American Poets College Prize in 1986. Two recording contracts have recently been secured and her most popular poem, "Adventures on the Isle of Adolescence", is currently under production as an animated film.

DOWN 2. Tractor/triiler lorry (5)

3 Cut design (4)

4 Genesis garden (4)

5 Ineffective (4)

6 Carburetor control tube (7)

7 France/Spain water (3.26)

8 Duct (7)

9 Tractor/triiler lorry (5)

10 Cut design (4)

11 Genesis garden (4)

12 Ineffective (4)

13 Carburetor control tube (7)

14 France/Spain water (3.26)

15 Duct (7)

16 Cut design (4)

17 Tractor/triiler lorry (5)

18 Ineffective (4)

19 France/Spain water (3.26)

20 Duct (7)

SOLUTION TO NO 2070

ACROSS: 1-A straight 5 Prof

15 Fight 17 Vantage ground

DOWN: 1-Setup, 2-Races

3-Inflict 4-Hilaire Belloc

5-Inflict 6-Runcorn

7-Runcorn

8-Antarctic 9-Snowy

10-Ton 11-Ton 12-Runcorn

13-Inflict 14-Runcorn

15-Inflict 16-Runcorn

17-Runcorn

18-Runcorn

19-Runcorn

20-Runcorn

21-Runcorn

22-Runcorn

23-Runcorn

24-Runcorn

25-Runcorn

26-Runcorn

27-Runcorn

28-Runcorn

29-Runcorn

30-Runcorn

31-Runcorn

32-Runcorn

33-Runcorn

34-Runcorn

35-Runcorn

36-Runcorn

37-Runcorn

38-Runcorn

39-Runcorn

40-Runcorn

41-Runcorn

42-Runcorn

43-Runcorn

44-Runcorn

45-Runcorn

46-Runcorn

47-Runcorn

<p

TELEVISION & RADIO

Compiled by Leslie Walton and Gillian Maxey

Giants of honky-tonk

TELEVISION CHOICE

Peter Waymark

In 'Big Big Country' (Channel 4, 11.00pm), Hank Wangford builds on his quickly enjoyable survey of country music screened by Channel 4 three years ago. On that occasion he covered the subject alphabetically. Now he devotes each programme to a single theme, such as women performers, duets, the Mexican influence and the impact of religion. For the final programme he leaves the United States for, of all places, Bulgaria, where the local equivalent of Tammy Wynette is breaking through to international recognition. Tonight's subject is honky-tonk, the hard-edged folk music of the Texas beer joints. As before,



Hank Wangford: presents the folk music of the Texas beer joints (C4, 9.00pm) Wangford uses archive film and interviews and relates the music to its social background. He sees honky-tonk, with its tough lyrics about drinking, cheating and broken marriages, as reflecting the upheavals of post-war Texas when rural communities were uprooted and pushed into the cities. He also looks at how honky-tonk lost its younger audiences in the Fifties to rock 'n' roll and got them back again in the Eighties. But it would be misleading to present *Big Big Country* as a profound piece of sociological analysis. Wangford's approach is too bitty for that and the main appeal of the programme will be seeing in performance great exponents of honky-tonk such as Bob Wills, Ernest Tubb, Lefty Frizzell and George Jones – some of them in quaint, folksy black-and-white and others in surprising colour.

Continuing its pursuit of injustice *Taking Liberties* (BBC2, 8.00pm) appears to have hit upon a prime example. The programme looks at the deaths and injuries to British servicemen from heat stroke during training exercises. Over the past decade the tally is at least 13 dead and 650 injured, which would seem to be an extraordinary high price to pay for the services' desire to sort the men from the boys. The Ministry of Defence is reluctant to change the system and the behaviour of fellow officers beggars belief. A naval sub-lieutenant who collapsed in the New Forest was allegedly pulled up by his hair, hit on the head and left unattended for half an hour in the sun. A passer-by saw the incident but an offer to take the man to hospital was refused. The officer spent days in a coma and has brain damage. The findings of the army's own inquiry have never been released. No one was disciplined.

BBC

6.00 Ceefax
6.30 BBC Breakfast News with Kirsty Wark and Nicholas Witchell. Includes news headlines every 15 minutes, regular sports bulletins, weather, regional news and travel, and a review of the morning newspapers by Paul Callan 8.55 Regional News and weather
9.00 News and weather followed by Open Air with Gloria Hunniford and Jayne Irving. To contribute ring 061 814 0424
9.30 Kilroy. Robert Kilroy-Silk chairs a studio discussion
10.00 News and weather followed by Going for Gold (r)
10.25 Children's BBC presented by Simon Parkin starts with Playdays: *The Playground Stop* (r) 10.30 Paddington Pests: *Cheep Pests Get Farmed Away* (r)
10.55 Five to Eleven with Eileen Atkins 11.00 News and weather followed by Open Air
12.00 News and weather followed by Daytime Live with Judi Spiers, Andy Craig and Floella Benjamin 12.55 Regional News and weather
1.00 One O'Clock News with Philip Hayton. Weather
1.30 Neighbours. Scott decides something needs to be done about Henry and Brownyn, who are still suffering from their emotional hang-ups, while Mrs Mangel is all doom and gloom with the thought of another lost chance at happiness (Ceefax)
1.50 Going for Gold. Quiz hosted by Henry Kelly
2.15 This is a Good Sport (1983), starring Lee Remick and Ralph Waite. Remick is called about a divorced New York sports writer whose casual affairs are halted when he meets his unlikely match in a chic, humorous fashion editor. Directed by Lou Antonio (Ceefax)
3.50 Children's BBC, presented by Andi Peters, starts with Dooby Duck's Disco Bus (r) 3.55 Green Claws 4.00 Bananaman. (r) 4.15 Tea in a Box. Captain Dynamite Simon, narrated by Victoria Wood (r) 4.25 New York Baby Show 4.35 Knownow with Beverley Wood and Matt Salter 5.00 Newround 5.10 Gangs Hill. Hargreaves has no patience with children who tell to see the serious side of things (Ceefax)
5.35 Neighbours. A chance to see the episode shown earlier today (Ceefax)
6.00 St O'Clock News with Peter Sissons and Anna Ford, followed by 6.30 Newsround South East
7.00 Holiday 90. Anne Gregg, Kathy Taylor and John Diamond report on the comparative values of flying to New York in first, club and economy class. (Ceefax)
7.30 Eastenders. Kathy has a heart-to-heart talk with Linda about her nervousness over her new relationship and Pauline provides an unlikely shoulder for Pat to cry on. Frank is filled with guilt over Diane's disappearance. (Ceefax)
8.00 Porridge. No Peaces for the Wicked. Classic comedy with the ups and downs of prison life for Fletcher (Ronnie Barker), who finds that no matter how hard he tries to have a quiet moment to himself, there's always someone causing a racket in his ear (r). (Ceefax)
8.30 A Question of Sport. David Coleman is joined by team captains Ian Botham and Bill Beaumont, and guests Steve Davis, Robert Jones, Frank Stapleton and Shireen Bailey. (Ceefax)
9.00 Nine O'Clock News with Michael Bush followed by Regional News and Weather.
9.30 Film: *The Boys from Brazil* (1978), starring Gregory Peck, Laurence Olivier and Jason Robards. A political thriller based on a true life story about a Nazi-hunter who discovers that a group of neo-Nazis in Paraguay are planning to kill 94 civil servants in Europe and North America. Directed by Franklin J. Schaffner
11.30 Film: 90. Barry Norman reviews *Parenthood*, starring Steve Martin and directed by *Happy Days* star Ron Howard, and *In Country*, starring Bruce Willis and Emily Lloyd, which is set in a small American town and looks at the after-effects of the Vietnam War seen through the eyes of a young girl whose father was killed in action
12.00-12.05am Weather

ITV LONDON

6.00 TV-am starting with News and Good Morning Britain, presented by Richard Keys and from 7.00, by Michael Morris and Linda Mitchell. Includes news every 15 minutes, regular sports bulletins, weather, regional news and travel, and a review of the morning newspapers by Paul Callan 8.55 Regional News and weather
9.00 News and weather followed by Open Air with Gloria Hunniford and Jayne Irving. To contribute ring 061 814 0424
9.30 Kilroy. Robert Kilroy-Silk chairs a studio discussion
10.00 News and weather followed by Going for Gold (r)
10.25 Children's BBC presented by Simon Parkin starts with Playdays: *The Playground Stop* (r) 10.30 Paddington Pests: *Cheep Pests Get Farmed Away* (r)
10.55 Five to Eleven with Eileen Atkins 11.00 News and weather followed by Open Air
12.10 Rod, Jane and Freddy, Snow and Ice. The bad weather doesn't stop the team breaking into song
12.30 Home and Away. Alison plans to put it into powder into Bobby's wedding dress. A subtituted *Carly* is brought home by Pipper and Steve 1.00 News at One. Weather
1.30 Themes. News and weather
1.30 Snooker. Mercantile Credit
Classic. Tony Francis with coverage of today's play from Blackpool
2.25 Themes. News and weather
3.30 The Young Doctors. Peter Holland is distraught about the news of Maria. A young patient finds that the nurses in the hospital are still there, one in particular
4.00 Children's TV starts with *Froggle Rock*. *Lucky Fergy* 4.15 Bugs Bunny. *Bugs Bonnets*. A lorry spills its load of hats and causes an upset for all concerned (r) 4.20 *T-Bag* and the *Peasants of Wisdom*. In her search for the second pearl of wisdom, Sally arrives in the Wild West of America. 4.40 *Cousin Duckula*. *Ring of the Curse of the Queen of the Mountains* Meets Frankenstein's Monster
5.10 Blockbusters. Bob Holness hosts the general knowledge game
5.40 News followed by national weather. (Oracle)
6.00 Home and Away. Another showing of the episode shown earlier today (r)
6.25 Themes. News and weather followed by *Carry On*
7.00 News and weather. Nick Bates finds out that when a girl is pregnant, she means it. Jack finally persuades Sam to say yes – but at what price?
7.30 Themes. Reports
8.00 The Bill. *Carry Your Bags, Sir?* Burnside and Sergeant Clegg are detailed to help Police Officer Krantz, sent from Germany, to track down stolen car engines. Burnside is delighted when Krantz turns out to be an attractive blonde. (Oracle)
8.30 Shelley. *Help*. Shelley is planning a visit to the theatre to celebrate his mother's birthday but when he stops off at a garage to buy some asphalt for his headache he ends up with an even bigger pain. Starring Hywel Bennett
9.00 The Sweeney. *In the Cold*. When a policeman is crippled by a vicious criminal, Regan feels responsible and begins a search for the gunman. Starring John Thaw and Dennis Waterman (r)
10.00 News at Ten followed by national weather. (Oracle)
10.30 Themes. News and weather
10.35 Snooker. Mercantile Credit
Classic. Tony Francis introduces action for the last quarter-final place at Blackpool
12.30am Film: *Frankenstein* (1973), starring Robert Foxworth, Bo Svenson and Susan Strasberg. The well-meaning Dr Frankenstein creates a monster (from graveyard spare parts) which in a well-meaning way, and unaware of its own strength, terrorizes the countryside. Directed by Dan Curtis
2.30 News headlines followed by *Donatello. Celotery Rights Act*. Families of past celebrities reveal their concern about the commercialisation of their loved ones and how it is tarnishing their memories. Donatello talks to the sons of John Wayne, Clark Gable and Harpo Marx, and the grandson of W.C. Fields
3.30 Quiz Night. Pub and club teams compete in the general knowledge quiz hosted by Ross King. Followed by News headlines
4.00 Music Special. *The Grateful Dead*. A look at the rock group who, after 23 years, have remained one of America's top concert attractions
5.00 ITN Morning News. Ends at 6.00

BBC 2

8.00 News 8.15 Westminster 8.00 Village School. *Summer Term* (r) 8.30 *Bejerman in Australia* (r) 8.55 *The Historian*. *Edim Cawell* (r) 10.00 Laurel and Hardy (b/w). *Twice Two*
10.20 Film: *Stone Over Wyoming* (1950, b/w), starring Tim Holt and Richard Martin. Two drifters come to the rescue of a cattleman bedding with a sheep rancher and his lynch mob. Directed by Lesley Selander
11.20 Rod: *Mexican Spitfire at Sea* (1942, b/w), starring Lupu Lévy, Charles Rodgers, Leon Errol and Zasu Pitts. Comedy about a woman whose husband, an advertising executive, tries to win a lucrative contract from a wealthy passenger on board a ocean liner. Directed by Leslie Goodwin
12.30 Business. *The Katalyst* (r) 1.20 *Pipe Street* (r) 1.35 *See Heart Magazine* for the deaf and hard-of-hearing
2.00 News and weather followed by *Look, Stranger*. People who built some of the world's greatest organs (r)
2.25 Darts. Embassy world professional championship highlights
3.00 News and weather followed by Westminster Live, including Prime Minister's Question Time
3.50 News and weather followed by Regional News and weather
4.00 *Children's TV* starts with *Froggle Rock*. *Lucky Fergy* 4.15 Bugs Bunny. *Bugs Bonnets*. A lorry spills its load of hats and causes an upset for all concerned (r) 4.20 *T-Bag* and the *Peasants of Wisdom*. In her search for the second pearl of wisdom, Sally arrives in the Wild West of America. 4.40 *Cousin Duckula*. *Ring of the Curse of the Queen of the Mountains* Meets Frankenstein's Monster
5.10 Blockbusters. Bob Holness hosts the general knowledge game
5.40 News followed by national weather. (Oracle)
6.00 Film: *Spirit of the Wild* (1983), starring Paul Savage, based on the true story of a crippled man who returns to his home in Alaska and takes up dog-sled racing. Directed by Ralph Little
7.30 Film: *Allo, Allo!* starring Phil Silvers (r)
8.00 Talking Liberties (see Choice)
8.30 Food and Drink. Chris Kelly, Michael Barry and Jill Godden on the search for the best British Bistro. Plus, restauranteur Antonio Carluccio prepares a mushroom feast
9.00 Hit and Run with Ruby Wax
9.30 The Lane. *Bangla Town*. Documentary on east London's Brick Lane immigrant communities
10.15 Design Sense. *Touch*. The start of a five-part series which looks at the way the design element in society is beginning to dominate technological advances
10.30 Newsnight with Peter Snow
11.15 Weatherwatch
11.20 Darts. Embassy world professional championship
12.20-12.55am Behind the Headlines (r)

CHANNEL 4

8.00 The Channel Four Daily
8.25 The Art of Landscape. Film images of the natural world accompanied by music
12.00 The Parliament Programme, presented by Sue Cameron 1.00 Sesame Street with guest Carly Simon
2.00 The Senior Service. Weekly magazine for older viewers. (Oracle)
2.15 *Consisting Passions*. New series exploring the lives of people with an unusual level of commitment to a hobby or occupation. Today, Penny Black, whose passion is her garden
2.45 Black Forest Clinic. *The Kidnap* (r)
3.35 *Buckingham Palace*. Story of the strange character who lives in a crack in the kitchen wall
3.40 The French Whistery Show includes interviews with Brooke Shields and Lauren Hutton
4.30 Countdown with Richard Whiteley 5.00 *The Lone Ranger* (b/w). *The Beeler Gang*
5.30 *Street Hockey*. A new series featuring Britain's top teams 6.00 *Gopher*. *The Electricity Bill*. Comedy series set in the world of electricity
6.30 *The Cosby Show*. *The Jester* (r)
7.00 *Channel Four News*. (Oracle)
7.30 *Complaint* followed by weather 8.00 *By Word of Mouth. Stories at Work*. A wealth of stories told by storytellers from different countries and cultures
8.30 *That's Entertainment*. *Incence and Ice-Cream*. Richard Cawley helps the Bishop of Wakefield with a dinner-party
9.00 *Drink – Under the Influence*. The second in a two-part documentary about the pleasures and perils of alcohol; how its misuse becomes a problem affecting families, work and public health
10.00 *Complaint* 12. *Heads You Lose*. A new series of the comedy, written and performed by Rory McGrath and Jimmy Mulville, aimed at showing what life was like in Roman-occupied Chelmsford in AD 123
10.30 *The Secret Cabaret*. A new series presented by Simon Drake, a young illusionist, in which the unexpected promises to be the norm. The programme includes knife-juggling, contortionist and a pick-up
11.00 *Big Country* (see Choice)
12.00 *Food: A Taste of Honey* (1961) b/w. Classic British drama based on the play by Sheila Fearn. Rita Tushingham stars as the young woman living in Salford who becomes pregnant by a black sailor Dora Bryan plays her indignant mother and Murray Melvin a homosexual who tries to help and take care of her. Ends at 1.30am

SATELLITE

SKY ONE

5.00am *Sky News 5.30 European Business Channel* 6.00 *DJ Kat Show* 8.30 *Panel Pot Pouri* 10.00 *The Sullivans* 12.00 *Another World* 12.55pm *General Hospital* 1.30 *As The World Turns* 2.45 *Loving* 3.15 *The Young Doctors* 4.45 *Captain Caveman* 4.00 *Godzilla* 5.00 *The New Leaf* 6.15 *Beaver Show* 8.00 *Sky Star Search* 8.00 *The New Price is Right* 8.30 *Sale of the Century* 7.00 *Frank Bough's World* 8.00 *Captains and The Kings* 10.00 *Jameson* 11.00 *Sky World News Tonight* 11.30 *Sara*

SKY NEWS

News on the hour.
5.00am *World Business Report* 5.30 *European Business Channel* 6.00 *World Business Report* 8.30 *Frank Bough* 10.30 *BMTV Good Health* 11.30 *World Business Report* 1.30pm *NBC Today* 2.30pm *Parliament Live* 3.15pm *Question Time* 4.30pm *NBC Today* 5.30pm *Live at Five* 6.30pm *Beyond 2000* 7.30pm *The Reporters* 8.00pm *Frank Bough* 8.30pm *Target* 10.30pm *The Reporters* 11.30pm *Frank Bough* 4.30pm *Target*

SKY MOVIES

From 8.00am *The Satellite Shop* 3.00pm *Andrea's Story* 3.00pm *Dusty*. Episode 6 of the Australian drama 4.00 *Journey Back to Oz* (1974) 4.30pm *Carry on Doctor* (1968) *Farce* about a fight between medics to create a weight-reduction formula 7.45pm *Entertainment Tonight* 8.00pm *For Those I Loved* (1982) Part two of the story book on the remarkable life and times of Polish-born Maria Grotowicz 10.45pm *The Hairy Kid* (1985) A 1980s teenager, killed in a hot-rod race, is chosen by an angel to aid a 1980s teenager 12.15pm *Java Speed* (1986) A fictional hero springs to life to rescue a damsel in distress 2.00pm *Rabid* (1977) A young woman contracts a rabies-like infection 4.00pm *Beet Street* (1984) Musical, based on the hip-hop culture of the South Bronx. Ends at 8.40pm

EUROSPORT

5.00am *World Business Report* 5.30 *European Business Channel* 6.00 *DJ Kat Show* 8.30 *Menu* 10.00 *NHL Ice Hockey* 12.55pm *European Cup* 1.30pm *Super Cup* 2.30pm *Super Cup* 3.00pm *World Cup* 4.30pm *Super Cup* 5.00pm *RingSide: Superbowl* 6.00pm *Golf* 7.30pm *US Skins Game* 8.00pm *Three-Cushion Billiards World Cup* 9.00pm *World Cup* 10.00pm *Europo* – What a Week! 7.00pm *Tennis: Stiga Grand Prix Finals* 8.00pm *Volleyball: Women's World Cup Gala* 8.00pm *Lisbon Football Tournament* 10.00pm *Paris-Dakar Rally* 10.15pm *WWF Superstars of Wrestling* 11.15pm *Three-Cushion Billiards World Cup* 12.15am *Paris-Dakar Rally*

MTV

5.30pm Club MTV 6.00 Kristiane Becker 11.00 *Remote Control* 11.30 Kristiane Becker 1.00pm *Marcel* 2.00pm *Remote Control* 3.00pm *Marcel* 4.00pm *Remote Control* 5.30pm Club MTV 6.00pm *Ray Charles* 7.00pm *Marken* 7.30pm *Remote Control* 8.00pm *Ray Charles*

SCREENSPORT

7.00pm Spanish Soccer 8.45 *Motorsport* 8.30pm *US Pro Ski Tour* 10.00pm *US Professional Boxing* 11.30pm *NFL American Football* 1.30pm *US College Basketball* 3.00pm *Driving* 4.00pm *NHL Ice Hockey* 5.00pm *American Basketball* 6.00pm *Three-Cushion Billiards World Cup* 7.00pm *Football* 8.00pm *Wimbledon* 9.00pm *Snooker* 10.00pm *Snooker* 11.15pm *College Football* 12.15am *Snooker*

LIFESTYLE

10.00am *Jaka's Fitness Minut* 10.01 *2-3-Handed* from Stone 2.30pm *Live at 7* 2.30pm *Spanish Soccer* 3.00pm *Survival* 3.30pm *6-10-40 Home and Away* 4.00pm *8-10-40 Home and Away* 5.00pm *9-10-40 Home and Away* 6.00pm *10-12-40 Home and Away* 7.00pm *11-12-40 Home and Away* 8.00pm *12-13-40 Home and Away* 9.00pm *13-14-40 Home and Away* 10.00pm *14-15-40 Home and Away* 11.00pm *15-16-40 Home and Away* 12.00am *16-17-40 Home and Away* 1.00am *17-18-40 Home and Away* 2.00am *18-19-40 Home and Away* 3.00am *19-20-40 Home and Away* 4.00am *20-21-40 Home and Away* 5.00am *21-22-40 Home and Away* 6.00am *22-23-40 Home and Away* 7.00am *23-24-40 Home and Away* 8.00am *24-25-40 Home and Away* 9.00am *25-26-40 Home and Away* 10.00am *26-27-40 Home and Away* 11.00am *27-28-40 Home and Away* 12.00pm *28-29-40 Home and Away* 1.00pm *29-30-40 Home and Away* 2.00pm *30-31-40 Home and Away* 3.00pm *31-32-40 Home and Away* 4.00pm *32-33-40 Home and Away* 5.00pm *33-34-40 Home and Away* 6

Brotherly support across a border river



East German opposition walks out in security row

Continued from page 1
ional Security and Herr Walter Halbriter, the Government's representative at the talks.

The atmosphere at the sixth round-table session had been made tense when Herr Koch admitted that of the 85,000 full-time former employees of the Office for National Security, 60,000 were still at their posts and some were still in possession of arms.

The Government promised two months ago that the hated state security service, the Stasi, would be reformed and then a month ago agreed to opposition demands to disolve the Office of National

Security completely. Herr Koch told the opposition that the service was being dismantled "step by step" and said that there had been problems finding new jobs for former workers.

He also promised that the practise of bugging East Germans whom the authorities believed politically suspect has now been stopped.

His account was greeted with anger and disbelief by the opposition representatives, many of whom had to be restrained from leaving the table immediately.

The opposition fears that ex-Stasi workers will be restored to state posts if the

four have since returned home carrying a Koran in what was seen as a clear move by the youths to discover their Muslim roots.

The show of nationalist fervour has caused concern in Moscow and already led to the dismissal of the Communist chief in the border region.

On Sunday an Iranian member of parliament armed with a loudspeaker urged Soviet Muslims to end their demonstrations

on the other side of the river. The Iranian news agency IRNA said about 1,000 people, who live in the enclave ruled by Azerbaijan, gathered on the river to chant Islamic slogans. Iranians gathered on their side to express support.

On Saturday rioting Soviet Azeris were reported to have torn down border installations. Southern Soviet Azerbaijan belonged to Iran until 1920.

Scientists search for cause

Mystery virus kills babies

Continued from page 1

A review of infant deaths showed that two other babies had died on Christmas Eve. Another two deaths occurred at the end of last week.

The team of specialists has

conducted a battery of tests,

and samples of air and water

have been sent for analysis.

Bacterial infections such as

Legionnaire's disease have

been ruled out. So too has a

fungus, aspergillus, which can

cause pneumonia, and traces

of which were found in air-

conditioning ducts at the

hospital.

The illness has been termed

by investigators as "adult

respiratory distress syn-

drome". Dr Michael Rigby, a consultant in paediatric cardiology at the hospital, said yesterday: "The children all died from complete failure of the lungs. It is a severe and unusual illness complicated by heart problems and is like pneumonia.

"There is no evidence of it being caused by the common influenza virus and we are almost certain that it is not a bacterial infection.

"The most likely cause is a virus, which if a healthy adult caught it, would make them a little ill and chesty.

"We have yet to exclude

outside agents such as con-

tamination of oxygen, ventila-

tion equipment or drugs that have been used." He said the hospital was "reasonably happy" that no other children at the hospital was at risk.

No patients have been admitted to the intensive care unit since January 2 because of the measures. A total of 34 babies had been admitted to the unit since the beginning of December, 20 of whom had been in operating theatres.

The investigation into the cause of the deaths has been made more difficult because of an increase in cases of respiratory infections among both babies and adults recently admitted to the hospital.

Political sketch

Just like the old days of the 80s

Take a cold January Monday, a drab Commons session on Social Security and a spring king of festive hangovers among MPs — and what's a sure-fire way of getting them all going?

Solution? Dennis Skinner, a pair of jump-leads, and a Question about the "plight of pensioners".

Plink-plink, fizz and they were away! Skinner was in an unusually head-banging mood, even for a Skinner, and kick-started the Chamber into a roasting start for the 90s.

"All this waffle and talk..." he growled: "and a lot never got a penny piece..."

"Repay the £12 a week this Government stole from every single pensioner in the land."

The Tory side whipped themselves into a modest frenzy of indignation, popping up and down (like Hornchurch's Robin Square) to protest Tory benevolence.

It was just like old times: just like the 80s. The old order might be disintegrating around us but down at the Commons they were limbering up with all the familiar exercises.

Skinner on pensioners was the parliamentary equivalent of the dash from the rugby field down to the stream and back, with which our sports master used to get us all going at the beginning of a damp games session.

Junior minister Gillian Shepherd was having none of it, from the boys or girls on either side. Mrs Shepherd was shaping up yesterday for the post of infants' school headmistress. Government wished neither to encourage nor punish single-parenthood, she told us with quiet command: just to give help where needed.

And when, later, argument broke out as to whether or not people were living longer under the Tories — and Harry Greenway (C, Ealing N) said that instead of an £11 congratulatory telegram, centenarians should be able to choose a bottle of chagne, whisky, parsnip-wine, or a box of the fudge sold at the House of Commons shop — Mrs Shepherd laid the ministerial equivalent of a schoolmarm's hand on little Harry's shoulder and told him to make the offer himself to the centenarians.

"Particularly" she said, turning gently to the babbling Greenway, "the House of Commons Fudge".

Matthew Parris

Mandela release 'near'

Continued from page 1

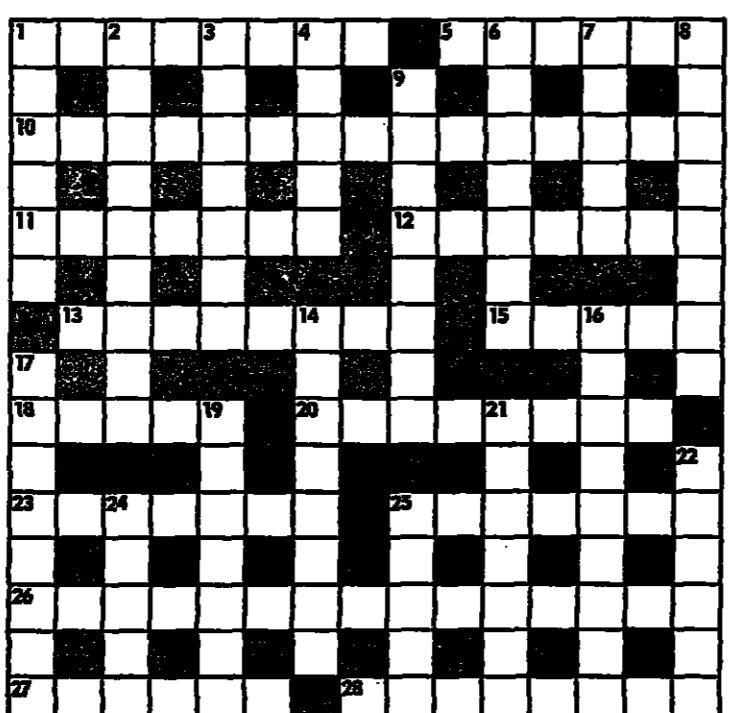
Early last month Mr de Klerk stated publicly that Mandela would be freed but added: "I'm not prepared to speculate when."

• LONDON: Sources in Whitehall said yesterday that it appeared "most likely" that Mandela would be released in late January or early February.

(Andrew McEwan writes. The British Government has kept up constant pressure for his release.

Sir Robin Renwick, the British Ambassador in South Africa, raised the matter at a meeting with Mr R.F. "Pik" Botha, the South African Foreign Minister, just before Christmas.

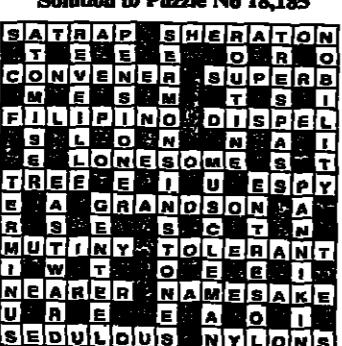
THE TIMES CROSSWORD PUZZLE NO 18,186



ACROSS

- Extent to which little girl and boy go to church (3).
- Dance garment (6).
- Monarch who could have become a Chartist herself (7,3).
- Love-bird in the first place has to be acceptable, see (7).
- One enters "lower" here, and not the answer (7).
- Pelican roaming around northern peak (8).
- Once one has put the pictures back, run (5).
- A sign to know (5).
- Mare they broke for redskin (8).
- Is plentiful because without limit (7).
- Flap when officer's in a state (7).
- Should valet shave first perhaps, for the thanksgiving service? (7,8).

Solution to Puzzle No 18,185



DOWN

- "Myself when young did eagerly frequent" _____ and Saint (Fitzgerald) (6).
- A quiet way to get into oil? That's a laugh (9).
- Give drink, say, to Englishman in a flap (7).
- Brahmin, for example, is a good man, even in another denomination (5).
- Unable to play the ball, so out of the team (7).
- Head off scarcity in the world (5).
- Insurrection extinguished by a division (8).
- Accident on transport system comes to court (8).
- It is used to preserve secret ciphers when unscrambled (8).
- Worl study man who rescues the enemy? (4,5).
- Engaged new head with tact (8).
- Girl showing enthusiasm for this colour (7).
- A small amount in the lid, where it's usually found (7).
- Hanging disheartened ugly devil (6).
- It's a major risk to include Iris (5).
- The leaders of the island race are of those people (5).

Concise crossword, page 18

WORD-WATCHING

A daily safari through the language jungle. Which of the possible definitions is correct?

By Philip Howard

COCKSHUT

- Twilight
- Tightly closed
- A type of blunderbuss cartridge

RABY BUST

- Fall in the birth rate
- Incipient breasts
- To kidnap a baby
- WAKIKI
- A breaking wave
- A loin cloth
- Shell money
- WAGMOIRE
- A quenelle
- Mock silk
- A sheriff's tipstaff

Answers on page 18

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic and roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0868 401 followed by the appropriate code.

London & SE traffic, roadworks
C. London (within N & S Circs) 731
M-ways/roads M-1 732
M-ways/roads M-1/Dartford T 733
M-ways/roads M23 734
M-ways/roads M25 London Orbital only 735
National traffic and roadworks
C. London (within N & S Circs) 731
M-ways/roads M-1 732
M-ways/roads M-1/Dartford T 733
M-ways/roads M23 734
M-ways/roads M25 London Orbital only 735
National motorways
West Country 736
Wales 739
Midlands 740
West Anglia 741
North East England 742
North-east England 743
Scotland 744
Northern Ireland 745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 5p for 8 seconds (peak and standard) 5p for 12 seconds (off peak).

WEATHER

It will be very windy in northern Scotland. Northern Ireland, Scotland and the border counties will be blustery with bright spells. Some showers will turn to sleet or snow in northern Scotland, England and Wales will be cloudy with rain, but it will become brighter in northern England, the Midlands and Wales. Outlook: unsettled and wet, with strong winds in the North and West.

ABROAD

MONDAY: 1=blunder, d=drizzles, fg=fog, s=sun, sl=sleet, sn=snow, t=fair, c=cloudy, rain

Scorpio 1 C F Majorca 1 C F 9.48 sunny

Hastings 2.0 2.0 9.48 sunny

Crete 2.0 2.0 9.48 bright

Lovett 3.7 3.7 9.48 fog

Brighton 7.1 7.1 9.48 bright

Lithuania 1.1 2.1 9.48 bright

Bosporus R 2.1 2.1 9.48 bright

Barbados 2.1 2.1 9.48 cloudy

Shetland 1.0 4.1 11.12 bright

Bournemouth 0.1 0.1 9.48 bright

Weymouth 0.1 0.1 9.48 cloudy

Exmouth 0.1 0.1 9.48 bright

Torquay 0.9 0.9 9.48 cloudy

Portsmouth 1.7 1.7 9.48 bright

Solent 0.9 0.9 9.48 cloudy

Scilly Isles 0.9 0.9 9.48 cloudy

Jersey 7.4 0.0 11.52 sunny

Guernsey 6.4 0.0 11.52 sunny

Weymouth 0.8 0.8 10.50 bright

Portland 0.8 0.8 10.50 bright

Weymouth 0.8 0.8 10.50 bright

Portland 0.8 0.8 10.50 bright

Weymouth 0.8 0.8 10.50 bright

Portland 0.8 0.8 10.50 bright

Weymouth 0.8 0.8 10.50 bright

Portland 0.8 0.8 10.50 bright

Weymouth 0.8 0.8 10.50 bright

Portland 0.8 0.8 10.50 bright

Weymouth 0.8 0.8 10.50 bright

Portland 0.8 0.8 10.50 bright

Weymouth 0.8 0.8 10.50 bright

Portland 0.8 0.8 10.50 bright

Weymouth 0.8 0.8 10.50 bright

Portland 0.8 0.8 10.50 bright

Weymouth 0.8 0.8 10.50 bright

Portland 0.8 0.8 10.50 bright

Weymouth 0.8 0.8 10.50 bright

Portland 0.8 0.8 10.50 bright

Weymouth 0.8 0.8 10.50 bright

Portland 0.8 0.8 10.50 bright

Weymouth 0.8 0.8 10.50 bright

Executive Editor
David Brewerton

THE POUND

US dollar 1.6530 (+0.0150)

W German mark 2.7572 (+0.0083)

Exchange index 87.2 (+0.2)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share 1945.0 (-3.8)

FT-SE 100 2431.3 (-13.2)

USM (Datastream) 157.06 (+0.85)

Ferranti contract

Ferranti International, the defrauded defence and electronics group, yesterday won a multi-million pound contract to produce a sonar system for the West German navy.

Last year, it sold a sonar system to New Zealand.

Ellis ahead

Ellis & Everard pre-tax profits rose 54 per cent to £7.78 million in the six months to October. Eps rose 16 per cent to 9.3p and the interim dividend by 10 per cent to 2.2p.

Tempus, page 22

Goode higher

Goode Durrant is raising its interim dividend from 1.75p to 2.15p a share on pre-tax profits of £6.7 million (£5.47 million) for the half-year to October. Turnover was £14.9 million (£10.9 million).

Tempus, page 22

Tomkins jumps

Pre-tax profits from Tomkins, which owns Smith & Wesson, the US gunmaker, rose from £19.1 million to £23.3 million in the first half to end-October. The interim dividend is 2.7p, a rise from 2.0p.

Tempus, page 22

STOCK MARKETS

New York Dow Jones 2774.32 (+1.07%)

Tokyo Nikkei Average 38294.96 (+20.20%)

Hong Kong 2616.24 (-23.70%)

Paris CAC 548.2 (-8.5%)

Stocks Ska Gen 825.8 (-0.5%)

London FT-A All-Share 1215.80 (-4.97%)

FT-500 1352.87 (-6.11%)

FT Gold Mines 315.8 (-10.2%)

FT Fixed Interest 92.91 (+2.0%)

FT Govt Secs 83.58 (-0.52%)

MAIN PRICE CHANGES

Rises: Church 280p (+10%)

Dunhill 425p (+12%)

Close Bros 245p (+10%)

Henderson Admin 845p (+10%)

MAM 685p (+10%)

M&G 4234p (+10%)

M&G Life 4321p (+25%)

Falls: Eurotunnel Units 662p (-20%)

Globe 60p (-14%)

Aus New Zia Bank 285p (-14%)

Anglo Group 330p (-18%)

Mits 155p (-10%)

Unilever 701.5p (-10%)

Dixons 452p (-14%)

Dixons & Newman 72p (-20%)

News Corp 882p (-15%)

Welcome 772p (-12%)

Bargains 3426p

SEAG Volume 397.6p

INTEREST RATES

London Bank Base: 15%

3-month Interbank 15%-15.1%

6-month Interbank 14.7%-14.7%

US-Prime Rate 10%

3-month Treasury Bills 7.51-7.49%

30-year bonds 100.72-100.72%

Yesterdays

TODAY

Tides

Tourist rates

Bank of England 2.15

Bank of Scotland 1.95

Bank of Wales 1.95

Bank of Northern Ireland 1.95

Bank of Ireland 1.95

Bank of Scotland 1.95

Bank of Northern Ireland 1.95

Bank of Ireland 1.95

Bank of Scotland 1.95

Bank of Northern Ireland 1.95

Bank of Ireland 1.95

Bank of Scotland 1.95

Bank of Northern Ireland 1.95

Bank of Ireland 1.95

Bank of Scotland 1.95

Bank of Northern Ireland 1.95

Bank of Ireland 1.95

Bank of Scotland 1.95

Bank of Northern Ireland 1.95

Bank of Ireland 1.95

Bank of Scotland 1.95

Bank of Northern Ireland 1.95

Bank of Ireland 1.95

Bank of Scotland 1.95

Bank of Northern Ireland 1.95

Bank of Ireland 1.95

Bank of Scotland 1.95

Bank of Northern Ireland 1.95

Bank of Ireland 1.95

Bank of Scotland 1.95

Bank of Northern Ireland 1.95

Bank of Ireland 1.95

Bank of Scotland 1.95

Bank of Northern Ireland 1.95

Bank of Ireland 1.95

Bank of Scotland 1.95

Bank of Northern Ireland 1.95

Bank of Ireland 1.95

Bank of Scotland 1.95

Bank of Northern Ireland 1.95

Bank of Ireland 1.95

Bank of Scotland 1.95

Bank of Northern Ireland 1.95

Bank of Ireland 1.95

Bank of Scotland 1.95

Bank of Northern Ireland 1.95

Bank of Ireland 1.95

Bank of Scotland 1.95

Bank of Northern Ireland 1.95

Bank of Ireland 1.95

Bank of Scotland 1.95

Bank of Northern Ireland 1.95

Bank of Ireland 1.95

Bank of Scotland 1.95

Bank of Northern Ireland 1.95

Bank of Ireland 1.95

Bank of Scotland 1.95

Bank of Northern Ireland 1.95

Bank of Ireland 1.95

Bank of Scotland 1.95

Bank of Northern Ireland 1.95

Bank of Ireland 1.95

Bank of Scotland 1.95

Bank of Northern Ireland 1.95

Bank of Ireland 1.95

Bank of Scotland 1.95

Bank of Northern Ireland 1.95

Bank of Ireland 1.95

Bank of Scotland 1.95

Bank of Northern Ireland 1.95

Bank of Ireland 1.95

Bank of Scotland 1.95

Bank of Northern Ireland 1.95

Bank of Ireland 1.95

Bank of Scotland 1.95

Bank of Northern Ireland 1.95

Bank of Ireland 1.95

Bank of Scotland 1.95

Bank of Northern Ireland 1.95

Bank of Ireland 1.95

Bank of Scotland 1.95

Bank of Northern Ireland 1.95

Bank of Ireland 1.95

Bank of Scotland 1.95

Bank of Northern Ireland 1.95

Bank of Ireland 1.95

Bank of Scotland 1.95

Bank of Northern Ireland 1.95

Bank of Ireland 1.95

Bank of Scotland 1.95

Bank of Northern Ireland 1.95

Bank of Ireland 1.95

Bank of Scotland 1.95

Bank of Northern Ireland 1.95

Bank of Ireland 1.95

Bank of Scotland 1.95

Bank of Northern Ireland 1.95

Bank of Ireland 1.95

Bank of Scotland 1.95

Bank of Northern Ireland 1.95

Bank of Ireland 1.95

Bank of Scotland 1.95

Bank of Northern Ireland 1.95

Bank of Ireland 1.95

Bank of Scotland 1.95

Bank of Northern Ireland 1.95

Bank of Ireland 1.95

Bank of Scotland 1.95

Bank of Northern Ireland 1.95

Bank of Ireland 1.95

Bank of Scotland 1.95

Bank of Northern Ireland 1.95

Bank of Ireland 1.95

Bank of Scotland 1.95

Bank of Northern Ireland 1.95

Bank of Ireland 1.95

Bank of Scotland 1.95

Bank of Northern Ireland 1.95

Bank of Ireland 1.95

Bank of Scotland 1.95

Bank of Northern Ireland 1.95

Bank of Ireland 1.95

Bank of Scotland 1.95

TEMPOS

Magnum force behind Tomkins

The American public's apparently insatiable appetite for handguns — sales of up to a million pistols a year, and an estimated 33 million owners — continues to mean healthy business for Mr Greg Hutchings' Tomkins.

The shares, tipped in this column for 1990 at 282p just a week ago, advanced another 2p to 295p against the market trend yesterday, and there is little in the interim figures to change that recommendation.

Pre-tax profits came in as expected at £23.3 million, a rise from £19.1 million, with a dividend increased by 35 per cent and a similar jump likely for the full year.

Mr Hutchings, the chief executive, unlike the heads of some other growth-oriented conglomerates, is wary of setting himself earnings targets that can come back to haunt him in lean times. He is again promising only an above-average performance this year.

Turnover rose by 54 per cent to £290.2 million in the first half to end-October, but this was skewed by the 1988 acquisition of Murray Ohio, the US lawnmower manufacturer, which was in for just three months last time, and actual organic growth was about 13 per cent.

Price rise by Blue Circle

By Colin Campbell

Blue Circle is to lift the price of bulk and packed cement by 6 per cent and 7 per cent, respectively, to take effect from March 1.

Delivery charges will also increase by a national average of 1.5 per cent for bulk and by 1.6 per cent for packed cement. Blue Circle said both increases were below the rate of inflation, and that they were brought about because of margin pressures.

The group previously raised cement prices by 6.96 per cent for bulk and by 7.72 per cent for bag on March 1 a year ago. The previous increase was in August, 1988.

Dearer cement, at a time when housebuilding and construction activity has slowed down, will have a knock-on effect on the price of houses although industry sources say that cement costs make up only a small part of the overall house price equation.

Blue Circle tempered the announcement with a special 24-tonne bulk haulage rate to take effect from March 1.

A feature of the first half was a storming performance from Smith & Wesson, where a backlog of 106,000 guns left the factories on 24-hour, 7-day working, and Murray itself, which in its worst half managed to scrape to an operating profit, again losses last time.

The question mark remains its acquisition policy. Murray was the last big move, and with gearing of just 10 per cent expected at its April seasonal peak, Mr Hutchings would hardly be human if he were not eyeing the field.

Tomkins does not have a reputation for overpaying, even at the top of the US market. But any approach for, say, Delta, in which it has been required to admit a 2 per cent holding, or Low & Bonar would have to be well-pitched and well-argued.

£7.6 million pre-tax this year would see the shares selling on about 10.7 times future earnings, while an increased dividend would offer a yield of more than 4 per cent.

Ellis & Everard

A simple principle has enabled Ellis & Everard to grow rapidly in the eighties. The giant companies which dominate the chemicals industry worldwide want the broadest



Moving target: Greg Hutchings of Tomkins yesterday

possible spread of customers for their products. Manufacturers of that size cannot be bothered with deliveries less than a wagonload. The solution — use distributors such as Ellis, which with Hays, is one of the largest in the UK.

ICI is quite happy to share its success on Ellis' lorries. Indeed, ICI has two seats on Ellis' board and shows no sign of

using its 28 per cent stake to launch a bid.

Protected by this loyal shareholder Ellis has pursued growth in two directions. It has expanded from its base in commodity chemicals into the distribution of higher margin specialties, such as water treatment.

It has also grown in the US. The acquisition of Pioneer

Chemicals and United Chemicals have doubled Ellis' US turnover.

The inclusion of Pioneer and United was the main factor behind the 59 per cent rise in sales to £143 million and 54 per cent rise in profits to £7.78 million before tax in the half-year to October. However, after growing by an average of over 25 per cent in the past five years, earnings per share were only 16 per cent up at 9.3p in the first half because of the £25.5 million rights issue to help pay for the US purchases.

With Ellis' industrial customers in the UK somewhat depressed, few analysts are expecting profits to exceed £15.5 million and earnings are not likely to be up more than 1p at 18p, a rise of only 6 per cent. That would leave the shares, at 238p, on a prospective p/e ratio of 13. Demanding in the short term, but Ellis has a well established historical trend in its favour.

Goode Durrant

The good news from Goode Durrant is that the interim profits and dividend are up.

Not so good news is that the motor distribution and housebuilding/construction activities will make 1990 tougher. Investors need not be frightened.

ended out of the shares, however, which rose 3p to 119p. There was strong organic growth in the six months ended October — pre-tax profits from £5.47 million to £6.7 million on a turnover of £140.9 million (£10.9 million) — and the balance sheet remains strong.

November's three acquisitions in the vehicle renting field plus the purchase of the shipping containers Ravenstock group will be making their final financial impact in the second half of this financial year, and gearing is still moderate enough to allow for more deals.

Pre-tax profits of about £12.3 million look possible for the year and a total 5.25p net dividend. If so, the shares offer a prospective p/e of 7.6 and a yield of 5.9 per cent.

They trade at a 34 per cent discount to the market.

Two factors need to be remembered. Nash family of South Africa through Winxiedel holds 14.9 per cent, with options over further 5 per cent, but because of Goode's banking licence need Bank of England permission before climbing higher. And there are still stale bulls around after the November, 1987, placing at 235p to stunt any determined rise.

Crude oil prices shed up to \$1.50 per barrel

World crude oil prices shed up to \$1.50 per barrel yesterday to just over \$20 a barrel, and experts said they looked set to tumble further, reversing their recent upward stampede amid forecasts of milder weather throughout the northern hemisphere. Physical Brent blend, the North Sea marker crude, fell by \$1.45 from its close in Europe last week — as much as \$1 off Friday's already much lower New York close and West Texas Intermediate, the key US grade, opened the week at \$1.05 down.

London oil traders said that the price falls will continue. "It is beginning to look like the bubble has burst completely," one declared. Yesterday Mr Gintanjar Kartasamita, the Indonesian oil minister, predicted that crude oil prices would fall to between \$17 and \$18 a barrel in the early part of this year.

Moss retires at Connell

Mr Eddie Moss, aged 57, has retired as a director and chairman and chief executive of the residential division of Connell, the residential and commercial estate agent. Mr Paul Cowan, aged 38, becomes chairman of the division and Mr Stephen Skipperley, aged 31, chief executive. They were members of the board of management of the company on flotation in March 1984.

Closures answers back

In the latest round of the tussle for Metal Closures by Wassall, Metal Closures will today issue its final defence document aimed at fighting off Wassall's £51 million cash and paper bid. Wassall spoke for 30.7 per cent of its target last Friday and is extending its offer until the end of this week. In terms of two shares plus 170p cash for three Metal Closures ordinary are worth 200p with Wassall at 215p, against the 185p at which Closures stand in the market.

Metal Closures pointed out that Wassall had received acceptances for only 1 per cent of the shares, other than the 29.96 per cent promised by Sater. Metal Closures' chairman, Mr Richard Graves, said: "Our shareholders' dismissal of this bid speaks for itself and they are advised to continue to reject it."

Treatt profits increase 24%

Treatt, the supplier of oils and aromatic chemicals, lifted pre-tax profits by 24 per cent to £1.36 million in the year to end-September.

Mr Paddy Hayes, Waterford's former chief executive and group chairman, resigned last April after Peat Marwick McLintock, the accountant, revealed that 1988 profits had been overstated by £15 million due to errors in accounting.

Mr Hayes is a former chief executive of Ford in Ireland who joined Waterford in 1985 and who the following year masterminded its £235 million agreed bid for Wedgwood.

He was replaced as chairman by Mr Howard Kilroy, the former deputy chairman.

Mr Paddy Byrne, the director previously responsible for Wedgwood, took over as chief executive. The Sedgwick globe symbol remains.

Cooper Clarke ahead

Cooper Clarke Group, the specialist building materials distributor which came to the Unlisted Securities Market in September, raised pre-tax profits by 47 per cent to £59.6 million in the six months to end-October, on turnover up 44 per cent to £11.8 million. Earnings per share rose from 4.96p to 6.68p and there is an interim dividend of 1.5p (all).

Mr Robert Ashby, the chairman, said the second half has started well, with an increase in gross margin. The company has continued development of its range of specialized building products, sales of which are growing at a faster rate than those of general building materials. Mr Ashby said current and longer-term prospects are encouraging, with continued buoyancy in many areas of the building materials markets.

The shares firmed by 4p to 97p.

British Gas in joint US ventures

By David Young
Energy Correspondent

British Gas is to accelerate its overseas oil and gas exploration programme by taking part in two new joint exploration ventures in the United States.

These new exploration and development initiatives — the first to be mounted by British Gas in the United States — will be carried out by a subsidiary of British Gas, BG Exploration America.

The company is to launch joint exploration programmes in the Gulf of Mexico and Gulf Coast region. A letter of intent covering on and offshore Texas exploration has been finalized with BHP Petroleum (Americas), a division of Broken Hill Proprietary of Australia.

A second letter of intent for exploration and development on and offshore Louisiana and Alabama has been completed with Atlantic Richfield.

The programme is likely to involve drilling about 20 exploratory wells throughout the Gulf Coast area.

BG Exploration America will also become involved in the development of several gas fields already operated by ARCO in the offshore Alabama area.

AL to sell Wimpys for £13m

By Sam Parkhouse

Allied Leisure has agreed to sell its 20 Wimpy-franchised restaurants to Grand Metropolitan for £13 million in cash.

Mr Richard Carr, chairman of Allied Leisure, said that the move, planned since last autumn, would release funds for expansion of the company's MegaBowl ten-pin bowling interests. Allied currently runs five MegaBowl centres.

Mr Carr said Allied was keen to complete the deal before the rate reviews announced last week take effect. He said that half of the restaurants were in London's West End and could face rate rises of up to 400 per cent. This was likely to cause



Carr sale will aid centres

"severe problems", possibly enough to turn last year's profits of £1.85 million made on the restaurants into losses.

Mr Carr said that the 20 restaurants had been performing

STC in Spanish partnership

By Nick Nuttall, Technology Correspondent

STC, the telecommunications group, has signed a joint-venture deal with Radiotronic, of Spain, to develop the Spanish telecommunications market, it was announced yesterday.

The agreement with Radiotronic, one of Spain's five main telecommunications and installation companies, comes amid rapid expansion in Spanish telecoms, with

manufactures leading-edge products and systems. Radiotronic provides installation, commissioning and maintenance services of telecoms equipment to Telefonica and supplies turnkey telecoms systems to major Spanish public sector utilities."

Radiotronic expects the deal to bring it key products needed to capitalize on Spanish telecoms market growth.

He said: "STC develops and

manufactures leading-edge products and systems. Radiotronic provides installation, commissioning and maintenance services of telecoms equipment to Telefonica and supplies turnkey telecoms systems to major Spanish public sector utilities."

He said: "STC develops and

manufactures leading-edge products and systems. Radiotronic provides installation, commissioning and maintenance services of telecoms equipment to Telefonica and supplies turnkey telecoms systems to major Spanish public sector utilities."

He said: "STC develops and

manufactures leading-edge products and systems. Radiotronic provides installation, commissioning and maintenance services of telecoms equipment to Telefonica and supplies turnkey telecoms systems to major Spanish public sector utilities."

He said: "STC develops and

manufactures leading-edge products and systems. Radiotronic provides installation, commissioning and maintenance services of telecoms equipment to Telefonica and supplies turnkey telecoms systems to major Spanish public sector utilities."

He said: "STC develops and

manufactures leading-edge products and systems. Radiotronic provides installation, commissioning and maintenance services of telecoms equipment to Telefonica and supplies turnkey telecoms systems to major Spanish public sector utilities."

He said: "STC develops and

manufactures leading-edge products and systems. Radiotronic provides installation, commissioning and maintenance services of telecoms equipment to Telefonica and supplies turnkey telecoms systems to major Spanish public sector utilities."

He said: "STC develops and

manufactures leading-edge products and systems. Radiotronic provides installation, commissioning and maintenance services of telecoms equipment to Telefonica and supplies turnkey telecoms systems to major Spanish public sector utilities."

He said: "STC develops and

manufactures leading-edge products and systems. Radiotronic provides installation, commissioning and maintenance services of telecoms equipment to Telefonica and supplies turnkey telecoms systems to major Spanish public sector utilities."

He said: "STC develops and

manufactures leading-edge products and systems. Radiotronic provides installation, commissioning and maintenance services of telecoms equipment to Telefonica and supplies turnkey telecoms systems to major Spanish public sector utilities."

He said: "STC develops and

manufactures leading-edge products and systems. Radiotronic provides installation, commissioning and maintenance services of telecoms equipment to Telefonica and supplies turnkey telecoms systems to major Spanish public sector utilities."

He said: "STC develops and

manufactures leading-edge products and systems. Radiotronic provides installation, commissioning and maintenance services of telecoms equipment to Telefonica and supplies turnkey telecoms systems to major Spanish public sector utilities."

He said: "STC develops and

manufactures leading-edge products and systems. Radiotronic provides installation, commissioning and maintenance services of telecoms equipment to Telefonica and supplies turnkey telecoms systems to major Spanish public sector utilities."

He said: "STC develops and

manufactures leading-edge products and systems. Radiotronic provides installation, commissioning and maintenance services of telecoms equipment to Telefonica and supplies turnkey telecoms systems to major Spanish public sector utilities."

He said: "STC develops and

manufactures leading-edge products and systems. Radiotronic provides installation, commissioning and maintenance services of telecoms equipment to Telefonica and supplies turnkey telecoms systems to major Spanish public sector utilities."

He said: "STC develops and

manufactures leading-edge products and systems. Radiotronic provides installation, commissioning and maintenance services of telecoms equipment to Telefonica and supplies turnkey telecoms systems to major Spanish public sector utilities."

He said: "STC develops and

manufactures leading-edge products and systems. Radiotronic provides installation, commissioning and maintenance services of telecoms equipment to Telefonica and supplies turnkey telecoms systems to major Spanish public sector utilities."

He said: "STC develops and

manufactures leading-edge products and systems. Radiotronic provides installation, commissioning and maintenance services of telecoms equipment to Telefonica and supplies turnkey telecoms systems to major Spanish public sector utilities."

He said: "STC develops and

manufactures leading-edge products and systems. Radiotronic provides installation, commissioning and maintenance services of telecoms equipment to Telefonica and supplies turnkey telecoms systems to major Spanish public sector utilities."

THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

01-481 4481

LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

Continued on next page

SHIPPING
TO £40,000

Our Client is a leading City firm whose enviable client list includes a host of internationally renowned shipping, commercial, financial and industrial names.

The firm's Shipping Department, with its strong Club base and prominent reputation for marine, international commodities, insurance and related work, is continuing to enjoy dramatic growth.

The ever increasing volume of instructions has created a number of further exceptional opportunities for young, ambitious lawyers with, ideally, 1-4 years' experience. The successful applicants will be encouraged to play a significant role in the firm's continued development and will enjoy a highly competitive salary and excellent prospects.

For further information, please contact **Alistair Dougall** on 01-405 6062 (01-773 3702 evenings/weekends), or write to **Quarry Dougall Recruitment**, 9 Brownlow Street, London WC1V 6JD.



UNITED KINGDOM • HONG KONG • NEW ZEALAND • AUSTRALIA

SOLICITORS' COMPLAINTS BUREAU
DIRECTORCirca £50,000
+ Car + Benefits

The Bureau is financed by the Law Society with a brief to act as the legal profession's self-regulatory body. This means an 'arms length' relationship and methods of working that involve lay people as well as solicitors at crucial points in the complaints handling process. The work of the Bureau as a whole is subject to systematic scrutiny by an Investigation Committee whose members include a majority of lay people and, in addition, new legislation will provide a Legal Service Ombudsman to whom dissatisfied complainants can turn.

Success will depend upon credibility with both complainants and with the profession. A reputation for fairness is but one aspect, speed and efficiency in the handling of complaints being a second major factor. Seventeen thousand complaints were received last year, while eighty five per cent were handled without recourse to formal adjudication, new approaches to cutting down the delays involved are being investigated as are new forms of redress.

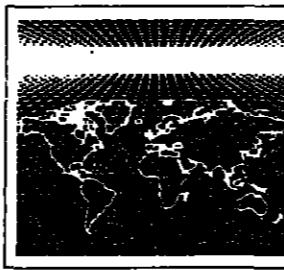
Currently the organisation has 130 staff and a £5 million annual budget.

While it is not essential to be a solicitor, the successful candidate will understand the work of solicitors as well as the problems of complainants. Considerable management abilities are required together with an independence of mind and the ability to maintain the Bureau's reputation and credibility in all quarters. Media and communications skills are also crucial; the Bureau's existence and work must be widely known and understood, with a headquarters in London and a growing regional presence.

Completed applications should be received by 31st January 1990. The Solicitors' Complaints Bureau is an equal opportunity employer.



Interested candidates should apply for application forms by phone or in writing to Michael Brandon, Korn/Ferry International, Peppys House, 12 Buckingham Street, London WC2N 6DF. Telephone 01-930 4334 Ext 252

KORN/FERRY
INTERNATIONALCORPORATE
FINANCE£25,000 -
£60,000CENTRAL
LONDONTAYLOR • ROOT
LEGAL RECRUITMENT ADVISERS • LONDON

MERCHANT BANKING

OUR CLIENT, A MAJOR UK MERCHANT BANK, SEEKS TO RECRUIT A NEWLY/RECENTLY ADMITTED SOLICITOR FOR ITS HIGHLY RESPECTED CORPORATE FINANCE DEPARTMENT. CANDIDATES SHOULD HAVE STRONG ACADEMIC BACKGROUNDS AND THE FLAIR AND ENERGY REQUIRED FOR THIS EXCITING, ALBEIT DEMANDING AREA. PACKAGE WILL INCLUDE A MORTGAGE SUBSIDY, BONUS AND A CAR. PLEASE CONTACT PAUL MEWIS.

PRIVATE PRACTICE

THERE IS TREMENDOUS DEMAND FROM THE MAJOR INTERNATIONAL PRACTICES, QUALITY MEDIUM SIZED FIRMS AND THE SMALLER 'NICHE' PLAYERS FOR SOLICITORS WITH EXPERIENCE IN MAINSTREAM CORPORATE FINANCE. IF YOU ARE CURRENTLY CONSIDERING YOUR OPTIONS AND WISH TO MAXIMISE YOUR EARNINGS POTENTIAL AND FUTURE PROSPECTS WHY NOT CONTACT ONE OF OUR SPECIALISTS, NICK ROOT OR PETER MORRIS.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE TELEPHONE 01-936 2565 (EVENINGS/WEEKENDS 01-675 6384 OR 01-747 1808) OR WRITE TO TAYLOR ROOT AT LUDGATE HOUSE, 107 FLEET STREET, LONDON EC4A 2AB. CONFIDENTIALITY IS ASSURED.

parc

Contract/Commercial Lawyer
To £45,000 Package

Our client, Parc Limited, a subsidiary of Kleinwort Benson, is predominantly involved in the rental of computer systems and other high technology equipment.

Due to rapid expansion, a new position has been generated for a lawyer with a minimum of 4 years' commercial experience, preferably including contract work in the high technology and/or finance industry.

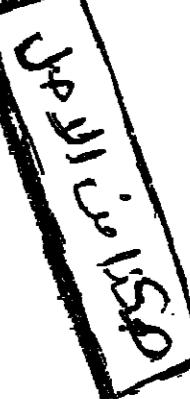
The successful applicant will join a small front line team involved in negotiating and drafting a variety of contracts and advising generally on the legal aspects of the company's activities. Candidates should be seeking a high level of responsibility in a commercial environment.

The importance of this position is reflected by the first class salary and benefits package on offer.

For further details, please telephone **Shona McDougall** on 01-831 3270 (01-482 0349 evenings/weekends) or write to her at **Laurence Simons Associates**, 33 John's Mews, London WC1N 2NS. All approaches will be treated in strict confidence.

LAURENCE
SIMONS
ASSOCIATES

Legal Recruitment

PENSIONS
LAWYER

Our client is one of the largest firms of solicitors in the City; within the practice its pensions team is relatively small, but extremely busy and earmarked for accelerated growth. This combination of circumstances now produces a rare opportunity: for a solicitor or barrister with at least three years' post-qualified experience to move rapidly to partnership (or equivalent) at a "top ten" firm.

Such realistic prospects may even appeal to a partner, in a smaller firm, who wants access to the full range of the very best work in pensions law. They will certainly be of interest to ambitious "assistants", and perhaps also to solicitors or barristers employed in major consultancies. Whoever is appointed, the intellectual and financial rewards are unlikely to be bettered elsewhere.

For further information about this exceptional opportunity please contact **Philip Boynton, LL.B., LL.M.**, on 01-405 6852 or write to him at **Reuter Simkin Limited**, 5 Bream's Buildings, Chancery Lane, London EC4A 1DY.

3 YEARS' +
QUALIFIEDPARTNERSHIP
PROSPECTS"TOP TEN"
PRACTICEREUTER
SIMKINLONDON • BIRMINGHAM
MANCHESTER • LEEDS • BRISTOL
GUILDFORD • SYDNEYCORPORATE TAX
CITY

Our client is a progressive partnership which has advanced steadily through the ranks of City firms in recent years. Their corporate tax practice is currently enjoying rapid growth and they are, therefore, seeking a lawyer with up to 3 yrs' PQE to join the team.

Contact Bob O'Dwyer: Ref: 233

CORPORATE FINANCE
LONDON

Our client is a strong medium-sized London firm. Corporate Finance is their largest department and has played a leading role in establishing their excellent reputation. They require additional young solicitors with drive and enthusiasm to undertake M & A, listings and banking work. Excellent salaries available. Contact Kate Parr: Ref 534.

ZARAK

6, Broad Street Place, Blomfield Street, London EC2M 7JH
Telephone: 01-588 9887 Facsimile: 01-588 1911COMPANY
SOLICITORc.£28,000, two cars
+ excellent fringe
benefits

Slough

Fiat Auto (UK) Ltd., a wholly owned subsidiary of one of Europe's largest automotive concerns is committed to a programme of sustainable growth to take us into the 1990's and beyond.

We are now looking for a Company Solicitor, whose responsibilities will also include the Company Secretary role, to report to the Managing Director as an integral part of our management team.

We would like to hear from solicitors with first class relevant experience, either in private practice or in industry. Our ideal candidate will have about two years' post qualification experience. However, a strong academic background is our major requirement, while the ability to give concise and practical advice to management at all levels will be essential.

Workload will be of the highest level, and will principally comprise commercial, contract, company, competition and intellectual property law.

The salary, around £28,000, will be supplemented by a fully expensed company car, a lease car, and a private health plan. Relocation assistance will be given if necessary.

Please send written applications, with details of qualification and experience, to David Birch, Personnel Manager, Fiat Auto (UK) Ltd., 266 Bath Road, Slough, Berkshire SL1 4HJ.

PETER CARTER-RUCK AND PARTNERS
ASSISTANT SOLICITORSrequired in their
MEDIA DEPARTMENT

including Defamation, Copyright, Passing Off, Contempt, publishing Contracts and text perusals.

Applicants with at least one year's post-qualification experience who are keen to undertake demanding and rewarding work with prospects should apply, enclosing full curriculum vitae, to:-

Mr Michael Powys Maurice, Partnership Secretary
Essex House, Essex Street, Strand, London WC2R 3AH.

Telephone: 01-379 3456

ESSEX
SOLICITORS

... have opportunities available in private practice throughout the region for ambitious solicitors qualified in their chosen field of law. Call Ian Graves in confidence to discuss your specific requirements.

0702
471147Kingsley House,
100 Euston Road,
London NW1 2SD
ESSEX SS9 1SA

At Lat

PENRIS, BRIGHTON - 2 yrs PQE
+ 1 yrs exp with top
EC4 firm. Exp not essential.
Training provided. EC4 Sat
242-281 hrs. incl bus hrs.

PROBATE - Well established mid-
Bucks practice requires with
experience. Apply to: Mrs
Edith Scott, Assoc 01 355 7086



Hubert Williams is one of those people whose personal savings bar them from getting legal aid. His wife has a claim against a drug company, whose tranquilizers, he says, have made her life a misery, but the claim can be pursued only at the risk of financial ruin for the couple.

The Lord Chancellor recently announced an infusion of £5 million for legal aid. Even so, there will still be many people caught in the middle-income trap, too well off for legal aid but not wealthy enough to risk litigation at their own expense.

It would be naive to think that any amount of campaigning will ever secure legal aid for people in their position. So we have to look for realistic alternatives.

Allianz, the legal protection insurers, published a Gallup survey on legal costs showing that solicitors' charges could be between £60 and £200 an hour. The effect of its advertising campaign is worrying for would-be litigants — and it could be big business for insurance companies.

Legal expenses insurance may solve some of the problems of legal costs but, as with all insurance, it will not cover problems existing when the policy starts. There will also be exclusions. For instance, policies do not generally cover divorce, certain crimes, rent, rates and land tribunals, and defamation actions.

Experience of insurance claims

LEGAL BRIEF

shows that disputes often arise over the wording of policies. In legal expenses insurance there could also be a conflict of interest where the insurance company turns out to be the defendant in the action it is funding.

The insurance company often

restricts the choice of lawyer involved, so little freedom is given

to the consumer.

The Courts and Legal Services

Bill will go some way towards

bridging the legal aid gap by permitting conditional fee ar-

rangements. This will be akin to

the Scottish system of speculative

actions, under which a lawyer

takes a case on the basis that if it is

lost he will not be paid.

There is, however, one im-

portant difference: there will be an

incentive for lawyers. As a quid

pro quo for getting nothing if he

loses, the lawyer can charge a

percentage uplift to the usual fee if

he wins.

It is only fair that lawyers who

take on the risk of not being paid,

and even carry the cost of

disbursements, should be re-

warded by higher fees. From the

client's point of view, if he loses he

will still be liable for the other

side's costs under normal rules,

and if he wins he will have to pay

the conditional fee uplift.

But contingency fees could be a

advantage to the client, whose lawyer would at least have

more than a passing interest in

doing a good job.

Under conditional fees, lawyers

will be able to follow their

instincts about an action where

the client does not qualify for legal

aid and cannot afford to take the

risk himself. It should also

encourage greater openness about

the visibility of a case.

In fact, some solicitors already

operate on a speculative basis

when a deserving client fails to get

legal aid, and more cases are

conducted on a speculative basis

in Scotland than are revealed by

the figures from the Faculty of

Advocates, the governing body for

the Scottish equivalent of bar-

isters, as it is solicitors who

conduct much of the litigation.

There is nothing to suggest that

conditional fees would be ex-

plained any more than the present

charging system, under which

solicitors are paid on an hourly

basis. It should mean fewer delays

and greater economy when the

lawyer and client have the same

goal. Of course, there will always

be a few lawyers prepared to

suborn witnesses and mislead

courts, but they are already work-

ing the system; it is denigrating the profession to suggest that it will be further corrupted by the prospect of higher fees.

It is argued, by analogy with the American system, that letting lawyers share in their clients' successes will promote nuisance litigation and unjustified claims against partners who are likely to settle out of court. It is also feared that an increase in claims will lead to higher costs being passed on to the consumer.

But it is unrealistic to suggest that lawyers will encourage clients to create the maximum nuisance just to gain an unjustified settlement. It is not more likely that the natural and just outcome will be present of legitimate claims that at present do not materialise?

Conditional fees are not a panacea for justice and they will not be permitted in criminal, most matrimonial or custody cases. Where damages are not an appropriate remedy, or where they are so small that the fees uplift would eat away at them, people will still be left without access to justice.

Recognizing that the ebbing tide of legal aid has left an increasing number of people stranded, the Government's proposals to legalize the practice of "no win no fee" will provide a viable option for quite a few who are now excluded through lack of means.

• The author is a barrister at the Consumers' Association.

'Even with extra legal aid money there will be people too well off to claim and not wealthy enough to risk litigation'

Law Report January 9 1990 Queen's Bench Division

Method of assessing damages payable in failure to fulfil tin contract

Shearson Lehman Hutton Inc and Another v MacLaine Watson & Co Ltd

Before Mr Justice Webster

[Judgment December 21]

The use of the phrase "prima facie" in section 50(3) of the Sale of Goods Act 1979 entitled the court to depart from a literal construction of the subsequent language in order to determine what would, in all the circumstances, have been a fair price on the day in question.

Although the current practice of the Commercial Court of the Queen's Bench Division, in awarding interest at 1 per cent above base rate, was only a presumption, it should only be departed from on relevant evidence to the contrary.

Mr Justice Webster so held in the Commercial Court of the Queen's Bench Division, in assessing the net damages payable by the defendants, MacLaine Watson & Co Ltd to

the plaintiffs, Shearson Lehman Hutton Inc, in respect of breaches by MacLaine of contracts to buy tin from Shearson, less similar damages payable by Shearson to buy tin from MacLaine, at £41,565,082.

Section 50 of the 1979 Act provides: "(3) Where there is an available market for the goods in question the measure of damages is *prima facie* to be ascertained by the difference between the contract price and the market or current price at the time or times when the goods ought to have been accepted or (if no time was fixed for acceptance) at the time of refusal to accept."

Mr Peter Scott, QC, Mr Ian Grieve, QC, and Miss Mary Morgan for the plaintiffs; Mr Richard Aikens, QC and Mr Adrian Hughes for the defendants.

MR JUSTICE WEBSTER said it was common ground that

there was an available market for tin on March 12, 1986; and, once Shearson's alternative contention that section 50(2) applied was rejected, that the measure of damages was that

prescribed by section 50(3).

The object of that subsection was to avoid uncertainty by arbitrarily presuming that the seller could obtain the market or current price of the goods on the date of the breach and fixing his damages by reference to that price.

The parties were also agreed that the test for ascertaining the market or current price was an objective one — and his Lordship held that the degree of skill in negotiation of the actual seller was irrelevant.

The evidence established that it would have been impossible to sell the greater part of the tin on March 12/13, 1986 to consumers of tin (as distinct from merchants), so a better price

would have been obtained if the sale were to be negotiated over a few days.

The two central issues, therefore, were:

1 Could it be said that there was an "available market" on March 12/13 — on which dates most consumers would not have been accessible to a seller of 7,755 tonnes of standard tin?

2 Whether it was necessary, in determining the market or current price on March 12/13, to consider only prices at which tin could then have been negotiated and sold; or was it permissible to consider the price which could have been negotiated over a slightly longer period?

His Lordship considered the authorities and comments in paragraph 1294 of *Benjamin's Sale of Goods* (3rd edition, 1987) and said that the answer seemed to be:

1 The available market issue

(a) If the seller actually offered

the goods for sale, there was no available market unless there was one actual buyer, on that day, at a fair price; but (b) if there was only a hypothetical sale for the purposes of section 50(3), there was no available market unless, on that day, there were sufficient traders in touch with each other to evidence a market in which the seller could, if he wished, sell the goods.

2 The appropriate price issue

Where there was no actual sale, the market price must be "a fair market price for the total quantity of goods, assuming them to have been sold on the relevant date".

But since it might be unfair to the defendant purchaser to confine the price so established to what was obtainable if an actual sale had to be concluded on that day, it was permissible to take into account the price, negotiable within a few days with members of the market on that

day who were only precluded from bidding on that day by difficulties of communication — no account being taken of any price fluctuations after the day in question.

The same result could be achieved by assuming either that all members of the market on that day were also then accessible, or that the hypothetical seller, knowing he would have to make his sale on that day, had begun to negotiate it sufficiently far ahead to contact all his potential buyers so as to achieve a sale on that day.

Neither assumption appeared to be inconsistent with the objects of section 50(3) or with the application to the facts of the general measure of damages under subsection (2), or with the authorities cited.

His Lordship would, if necessary, justify them by referring to the expression "prima facie" in subsection (3) as giving

licence to depart from a literal application of its language, in order to arrive at what would in substance be a fair price on that day in all the circumstances.

But his Lordship also concluded that the price that would have been obtained had it been necessary to conclude the sale on that day were also then accessible, or that the hypothetical seller, knowing he would have to make his sale on that day, had begun to negotiate it sufficiently far ahead to contact all his potential buyers so as to achieve a sale on that day.

His Lordship, having analysed the expert evidence, concluded that the fair market or current price of 7,755 tonnes of standard tin on March 12/13, 1986 was £3,400 per tonne.

The plaintiffs had contended for London and Scottish Clearing Banks' Leading Rate (commonly referred to as the UK Clearing Banks' Base Lending Rate) plus 1 per cent; the

defendants, for London Inter-Bank Offer Rate (LIBOR) plus 1%. The practice in the Commercial Court and the Admiralty Court was to award interest at base rate plus 1 per cent.

His Lordship concluded that while the practice of the Commercial Court amounted to no more than a presumption, which could be dispensed with on evidence that to apply it would be unfair to one side or another, it should not — in the absence of evidence or of judicial knowledge (which his Lordship discounted) — be departed from.

The award of damages would therefore carry interest from March 13 at base rate plus 1 per cent, and judgment would be given for the plaintiffs (after deducting the counter-claim and an interim payment already made) in the sum of £41,565,082, with costs.

Solicitors: Simmonds & Simmonds, Allen & Overy.

LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

Continued From Previous Page

Manager Group Legal Services

H P Bulmer Holdings is a leading independent drinks company, listed on the Stock Exchange. In addition to being the UK market leader in cider, it is a major distributor of wines, spirits, mineral waters and other drinks and manufactures pectin. There are also overseas operations, mainly in Australia and Brazil. Annual turnover is about £200 million.

The Manager, Group Legal Services, is responsible to the Group Company Secretary for the group's legal affairs, including commercial contracts, intellectual property, licensing and the legal aspects of promotions and packaging.

Applicants should be experienced solicitors or barristers with a commercial approach to legal responsibilities. Age will not be a bar.

The post is based in Hereford and offers a first class negotiable salary and a comprehensive benefits package, including car, contributory pension, profit share scheme, BUPA and assistance with relocation expenses.

Please write, giving concise details of your career to date and an indication of current earnings, to:

Ian Richardson, Group Company Secretary, H P Bulmer Holdings PLC, The Cider Mills, Plough Lane, Hereford HR4 0LE.

This post is open to men and women.

B H P BULMER HOLDINGS PLC

Legal Assistant

An ambitious way to start a new decade would be a challenging career with Bovis Construction Limited, one of the UK's largest and most successful building companies.

Legally qualified, you will work closely with an Assistant Company Secretary mainly concerned with Commercial activities, Contracting conditions and negotiations. Previous experience in the construction industry would be an advantage, but is not essential.

For the person we appoint, we are prepared to negotiate a salary which reflects the importance we attach to this position. Valuable additions will include a Company car, pension with life cover and permanent health cover.

We are an equal opportunities employer. If you would like to work in a stimulating environment, which offers job satisfaction and good prospects in our flourishing Company, write with personal and career details to:

Paul Robinson,
Personnel Officer,
Bovis Construction Limited,
Bovis House, Northolt Road,
Harrow, Middlesex HA2 0EE.

THE LAW

Moscow's quiet revolution

A British firm of solicitors is helping to widen perestroika, says Edward Fennell



Pioneer lawyer: Paul Melling (inset) will head the office that will bring a British flavour to the Soviet capital

International lawyers Baker & McKenzie will open for business in Moscow next Monday. With just one partner and two associates it is not a big operation, but as only the second Western law firm to operate within the Soviet Union — Coudert Brothers was the first — Baker & McKenzie can claim to be a pioneer of perestroika.

Of course, to say that Mikhail Gorbachov's efforts to restructure the Soviet economy depends on the lawyers would be an exaggeration. But the availability of local legal expertise to guide investors through the Moscow bureaucracy would certainly be a significant advance in encouraging Western involvement in the Soviet economy.

Paul Melling, the Russian-speaking British lawyer who will head the Moscow office, says 70 per cent of his work in the early days is likely to be for existing clients of the firm. But as more Western companies become interested in prospects within the Soviet Union, the Moscow office could act as a magnet for new work.

Melling himself has been in Moscow for 12 months preparing

for the opening. He has developed good links with the vitally important Ministry for Foreign Economic Relations, which, as a sign of its support for the venture, has agreed to be Baker & McKenzie's sponsor for "accreditation" as an officially recognized foreign commercial operation. This shows commitment to long-term presence in Moscow as well as giving the firm improved access to local services and facilities.

"The work that we have been doing in the run-up to the opening suggests that we are going to be extremely busy," Melling says. "We are currently working seven days a

week and that is likely to continue. Clients arrive in Moscow on Monday, get into negotiations and want to leave with a contract by Friday. And that only leaves us the weekend to get on with other work."

Most transactions are concerned with setting up joint ventures. This is the way the Russians particularly like to operate because it means they provide plant, people and raw material, while the foreign investor provides the all-important hard currency. But although there is no doubt Moscow's enthusiasm for such developments and real commitment to change, huge obstacles still stand in the way of creating an

Although he does not expect his office to go beyond three lawyers he does envisage that the firm may open other offices in cities such as Kiev and Leningrad.

Melling is keen to emphasize, however, that the Baker & McKenzie office within the Soviet Union is simply the sharp end of a world-wide Soviet practice. "We are permanently looking for suitable lawyers for our Soviet Union work, which is conducted from Washington, Chicago and Frankfurt as well as from London," he says. "Having said that, however, permanent presence within the Soviet Union is highly important as part of our service to our clients."

Meanwhile, Melling is grappling with the practical problems of Moscow life. Basic equipment such as fax paper is not available and has to be imported, and making a long business telephone call out of Moscow back to London is still notoriously difficult, even once you have access to a telephone — during the past few months Melling has shared a telephone with two colleagues.

Fortunately, his locally recruited secretarial staff are willing and enthusiastic and the aim is that they should be able to provide the same level and style of service as in London or American offices.

"We'll be sending them over to London in the spring for training," Melling says. "Corporate culture, it seems, will be one of our first exports to the Moscow legal scene.

INNS AND OUTS

Is anything to be read into the collaboration of Goudens with the Brussels office of the American firm Oppenheimer Wolff & Donnelly in a seminar on cross-border mergers and acquisitions (M&A) to be held in London on January 17? According to Howard Leibman, a partner in the Brussels office of the Minneapolis-based firm, five or six firms, including Goudens, have made approaches to Oppenheimer, attracted, it seems, by the existence of a long-established Brussels office as well as the American connection.

It seems that the firm has narrowed the choice down to two. Although Oppenheimer has confirmed that Goudens is still in the running, its rival is a mystery. Oppenheimer is adamant that the two firms are not in a contract race.

If Goudens turns out to be the chosen one, it stands to gain not only an entrée to Brussels, but access to a network of offices in New York, Washington, Chicago and Minneapolis. For a firm whose overseas network encompasses Jersey, Paris and Kuwait, but not the United States, this is a contest worth winning.

This week will see the resumption in Lagos, Nigeria, of the trial by a military "transition to civil rule" tribunal of the country's leading civil rights lawyer, Chief Gawi Fawehiun, who was charged with subversion last September after being detained without charge for three months. The charges, which he denies, relate to a magazine article in which he was quoted as saying: "This government has AIDS." The article has been deemed to be a violation of the government's decree on the transition to civil rule.

Although a High Court ruled last July that his arrest was unlawful and awarded him damages of 10,000 naira (\$1,400), it had no jurisdiction to release him and he was neither charged nor released until mid-September, when he was granted bail but immediately re-arrested. In October, the government bowed to public pressure and released him from detention. The beginning of 1989 also saw Fawehiun in court, but not this time in the dock. He has used the courts to challenge the actions of the government on numerous occasions and last January was attempting to compel it to reveal the exact extent of Nigeria's external indebtedness. His trial will be resumed tomorrow.

Countries that seemed to have almost disappeared from the world map are being brought to the fore by perestroika.

For example, the Mongolian People's Republic. But even there the winds of change are blowing. And Theodore Goddard is there at the start, retained by the Mongolian government to advise it on the drafting of its foreign investment and joint venture laws. It hopes that Theodore Goddard's John Murphy, who has practical experience of doing joint ventures in several Eastern bloc countries, can help it avoid mistakes made in other joint-venture laws. As a country, Mongolia drew the short straw in terms of geographical location — although nominally an independent state, it sits uncomfortably between China and the Soviet Union. Its two million people gained independence from China in 1911, though China never fully recognized the fact and Mongolia leaned towards the Soviet Union for protection.

Murphy may want to refer to *The Mongolian Legal System*, the text book on Mongolian law written by Professor William Butler, of University College London. Butler, who speaks Mongolian, has translated all the Mongolian laws, and has also published a Russian-English-Mongolian dictionary of 1,200 legal terms.

A snail has hit Freshfields' move to Whitefriars. The firm's new home is equipped with an energy-saving device in the form of motion sensors that operate the lighting. Thus, whenever there is no movement in a room for more than 10 minutes the lights go off. Unfortunately, this has meant that lawyers who like an afternoon snooze over their documents are cast into sudden darkness. The good thing is that they have only to wave their arms to make the lights go on again.

Scrivenor

PROTECTION OR CONFUSION?

Greater protection for investors is one of the most important aims of the latest proposals by the Securities and Investments Board (Robin Brooks and Martin Coleman write).

The proposals come less than two years after the Financial Services Act 1986 (FSA) was brought into force and, together with amendments contained in the Companies Act 1989, will bring substantial changes if implemented.

But will they work better than the FSA? Those responsible for the original FSA wanted to avoid what was considered the highly centralized, lawyer-dominated, rule-based system of regulation that existed in the United States. The FSA was to provide for a decentralized, practitioner-led, non-legalistic system.

Ironically, from the start, the system created by the FSA was criticized as over-detailed and confusing, and for driving out inde-

pendent sources of advice for investors. Critics have also said it fails to deal with malpractices in the financial markets.

Changes are therefore necessary, but the amendments under consideration are, in many ways, for the worse and question how far a self-regulation system still exists — except in name.

The new regime will give rise to four layers of regulation: first, a dozen principles; then, rules common to all self-regulating organizations (SROs) known as designated or core rules; then, rules made by every SRO for its own members; and, finally, codes of practice issued by the Securities and Investments Board (SIB).

An individual investor wanting to determine whether his investment adviser has observed the regulatory requirements may well be confounded when expected to plough through principles, rules

and several codes of practice. Compliance officers required to advise firms of their duties may be equally confused.

Most of this could have been avoided. After deciding to make changes, the Government and the SIB had two options. They could have recognized that the existing system was to build the framework for the future and that after a time it needed readjustment and nurturing, not wholesale change.

Rather than a coherent alternative, they gave us the worst of both worlds. Effective investor protection requires that firms and investors know what is permitted. Five SROs adding their own layers to an established set of principles and designated rules, and guided by codes of conduct, create undesirable complexity. The proposal may maintain little more than the appearance of self-regulation.

The Companies Act amend-



ments rule out the existing regime. The new system's unsatisfactory aspects could be significantly reduced by taking the small further step to a unified rule book with suitable modifications for particular types of firm and investor. If desired, self-regulation could still operate at the level of enforcement and monitoring.

The authors are solicitors with Norton Rose.

01-481 4481

LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

01-481 4481

Personal Injury

to £27,000

WC1

Our client is a long established and highly respected, medium-sized firm of solicitors based in WC1, considered a leader in the field of Insurance Law and numbering Lloyds Syndicates and major insurance companies among its clients.

An opportunity has arisen for a young and ambitious solicitor with relevant experience gained during or since articles, to join this major department and to take on a varied and challenging caseload, which will include employers, and public liability, transport and environmental litigation among others.

The firm believes strongly in offering its staff competitive salaries and a structured career to partnership level. Training and advice are always available, while the partners offer early responsibility and rapid promotion in line with ability.

Legal Executive

to £22,000

Commercial/Civil Litigation

This highly regarded 16 partner West End firm seeks a Legal Executive or Legal Advisor to take over and build up a varied caseload of quality commercial work, including personal injury, medical negligence, mortgage repossession and property litigation.

Educated to at least ILEX part 2, your previous experience should include work in one or more of the above fields, gained in either a City, West End or substantial provincial practice. The ability to use a computer would be an advantage but is by no means essential as a full training programme is offered.

The firm can offer work of sufficient quality and complexity, combined with outstanding prospects for salary and promotion.

For further information on either of the above positions, please call Simon Jamison or David Wright on 01-242-6321 or write to us at 75 Gray's Inn Road, London, WC1X 8JS.

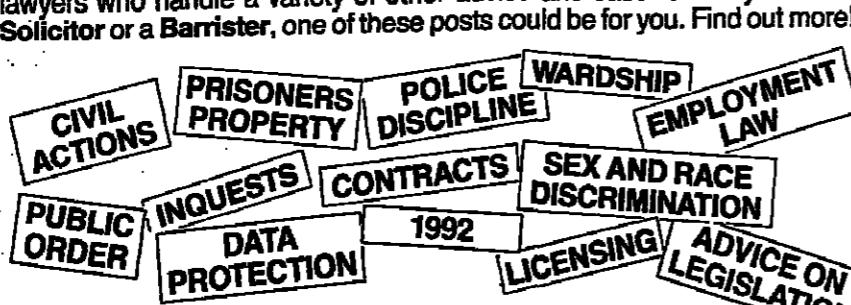
PERSONNEL + RESOURCES

LEGAL DIVISION

NEW SCOTLAND YARD says

The arm of the law needs a hand

You may have thought all legal work from the Police goes to the Crown Prosecution Service. It's not true. The Metropolitan Police have over 20 lawyers who handle a variety of other advice and casework. If you are a Solicitor or a Barrister, one of these posts could be for you. Find out more!



And that's just a sample. You never know what's next.

You'd start as a Legal Officer or Principal Legal Officer in our modern offices near New Scotland Yard on a salary somewhere between £16,481 and £29,224 including Inner London Weighting. There's plenty to do, but evening and weekend working is rare.

So why not ring Michelle Baker on 01-230 2399 for an application form and further details? Interviews will be held in mid to late February 1990.

Closing date for receipt of completed application forms is 2nd February, 1990.

The Metropolitan Police is an Equal Opportunities Employer.

METROPOLITAN POLICE

Commercial Lawyer

Entertainment Industry

Director prospects

c. £50,000
+ bonus + car



Macmillan Davies

MANAGEMENT SELECTION

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS & DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE SOLICITOR

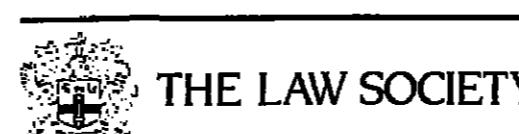
SALARY IN THE RANGE OF £22,000 - £30,000

The Law Society requires a Solicitor to be its principal adviser on professional indemnity matters. The duties will include advising on policy and rules, handling individual casework and acting as company secretary to the Solicitors Indemnity Fund Ltd.

The post will be based at the Law Society's modern offices in Redditch, North Worcestershire. We offer an excellent benefits package, including pension scheme, BUPA and 26 days holiday.

Please send a full cv and the names of two referees to the Director, Professional Standards and Development, The Law Society, Ipsley Court, Redditch, B98 0TD by 25th January, 1990.

The Law Society is an equal opportunities employer.



Not so much a merger more an exercise in logic

WOOLF
INGRAM
SEDDON
ANSELL
ROScoe
LEVY
PHILLIPS

It is rare to find two leading London solicitors so closely aligned in both expertise and approach.

Woof Seddon Roscoe Phillips and Ingram Ansell Levy are two such firms. Both seeking to expand. Hardly surprising, therefore, that we have taken the logical step — a merger, with effect from 1st January 1990. This will give us growth and our clients 'added value' across the legal spectrum.

Woof Seddon Roscoe Phillips. From strength to strength.



5 Portman Square, London W1H 9PS
Tel 01 486 9681, Fax 01 935 5049, Telex 296475, DX 9061 West End

01-481 4481

LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

01-481 4481

The Complete Service For The Complete Lawyer

There are so many different opportunities for the capable lawyer, that it may be difficult to identify the most sensible and rewarding route to career fulfilment. Our service to lawyers considering a change of direction is complete; all of our consultants are qualified lawyers, with practical experience in both private practice

and industry and therefore offer the unique combination of insight and overview essential to successful career progression.

To discuss your future and the many exciting opportunities for 1990, contact Simon Lipson, Michael Silver or June Mesrié, all Solicitors, or Lucy Boyd, a Barrister.

PRIVATE PRACTICE

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY £27,000 - £70,000

- Planning, Development, Funding ► City, West End and Provinces
- NQ-6 years PQE
- PROFESSIONAL INDEMNITY £24,000 - £40,000
- Major City practice ► Accountants, Solicitors, Surveyors negligence
- Excellent prospects ► NQ-4 years PQE
- COMPANY COMMERCIAL £Excellent
- Top ten practice ► Corporate Finance ► M&A ► MBOs/LBOs
- 1 year PQE+

INDUSTRY / COMMERCE

COMMERCIAL LAWYER c. £30,000+ Car

- Blue chip commercial concern ► Company/commercial with EEC/international bias ► Solicitor/Barrister ► 2 years PQE+

MAJOR OIL COMPANY to £35,000

- Solicitor/Barrister ► Commercial experience ► Exceptional opportunity and prospects for career development ► 1-3 years PQE

INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENT BANK £Outstanding

- Capital Markets/Corporate Finance/Banking ► City background
- 1-3 years PQE



SUITE 331 · PREMIER HOUSE
10 GREYCOAT PLACE · LONDON
SW1P 1SB

01-222 4243
24 HOURS

THE LEGAL RECRUITMENT SPECIALISTS

Durnford Ford Solicitors

The Durnford Ford Organisation practising under the styles of Durnford Ford, John Lester & Co and Durnford Franklin, is one of the largest providers of legal services in the South East. We require a number of skilled and experienced professionals (Solicitors, Barristers or Legal Executives or persons trained to similar standard) to play a vital role in the development of our organisation and to help meet the challenges of the 1990's.

Successful candidates will demonstrate excellent legal skills and enjoy working as part of a team to provide a top quality service.



The Contentious Costs Office

An energetic solicitor is sought to undertake a general and comprehensive case load. The solicitor will supervise a small team as well as undertake cases personally.

The office has strong links with Spanish speaking clients and the ability to speak Spanish would be an advantage but not essential, as Spanish speaking professional and secretarial staff are already employed. For a Spanish speaking solicitor there is an opportunity to expand the firm's links with Spain.

Legal Technicians

We also require a number of experienced professionals (Solicitors, Barristers or Legal Executives or persons trained to similar standards) for appointment in the following fields of work:

- Civil Disputes Litigation
- Debt Collection and Enforcement
- Small Claims Litigation (Civil)
- Trustee and Executor Law and Practice
- Family Law



LONDON AND THE SOUTH EAST
Departments and Dedicated Bureaux

If you would like to consider joining us, please either write to, or telephone Mrs. Mary Stacey, Personnel Department, Durnford Ford Solicitors, Administration Centre, 51 Havelock Road, Hastings, East Sussex, TN34 1BE. Telephone: (0424) 442442.

CUMBRIA MAGISTRATES' COURTS COMMITTEE

WEST CUMBRIA MAGISTRATES' COURTS

Appointment of COURTS OFFICE MANAGER (£12,354 - £14,175 p.a.)

Applications are invited for the above post from people with extensive experience of administrative work in a busy magistrates' court or other legal office.

The successful candidate will be responsible to the Justices' Clerk for the proper operation and management of all administrative duties, excluding those involving the accounting function, (although an understanding of that function would be an advantage). A full job description may be obtained from the undersigned.

The post is located in pleasant purpose-built offices at Workington, not far from the scenic splendour of the Lake District National Park, where the quality of life is high. The courts cover a population of nearly 137,000 and much of the work of the Courts Office is computerised, using Unisys microcomputers with a link to the Cumbria Police Prosecution Department. The successful candidate should therefore have an interest in and an ability to manage and develop the use of computers within a 'justices' clerks' office.

Generous assistance with removal and other expenses will be given in an appropriate case. Applications, giving full details of age, experience, qualifications and the names, addresses and occupations of two referees, should be sent to me by 31 January 1990, marked 'Confidential - Office Manager'.

C.J. Armstrong
Clerk to the Justices
Hall Park, Ramsey Brow,
Workington, Cumbria, CA14 4AS.
TELEPHONE: 0906 - 62244

SURREY MAGISTRATES' COURTS COMMITTEE

COURT CLERKS

CC11 - 15 £15,807 - £16,198 (under review)

Plus Surrey Allowance £408 and leased car and BUPA

Applications are invited from persons qualified to be clerks in court to join the Surrey courts service. The main grade of CC11 - 15 is for clerks able to take all courts within the Surrey area. Less experienced applicants will be considered for appointment mainly within the ranges of CC1 - 6 or 8 - 10 depending upon experience.

Vacancies are available in the following areas:

The Guildford and Reigate divisions share a Justice Clerk and the staff for both divisions are located at the Justice Clerk's Office in Redhill. The postholder will be required to take courts regularly in both divisions.

Staines & Sunbury
The postholder will be based at the custom built court house at Kinnoull Green, Staines and will be required also to take courts in the Esher & Walton division.

Esher & Walton
The postholder will be based at the court house in Walton-on-Thames and will be required also to take courts at Staines.

JJC conditions of service as supplemented by the decisions of the Committee apply to the posts which are subject to medical fitness. Assistance with removal expenses and legal and house agent fees are payable in approved cases together with other allowances, including mortgage subsidy for certain areas, mobility and a lower cost housing area. Car leasing scheme and private medical insurance available for most grade appointments.

Applications forms with further details from:
Merton House
51 High Street
Esher KT10 9RQ
(Telephone: Esher 6905)

BARRISTER'S CLERK

The Chambers of James Mulcahy Q.C.,

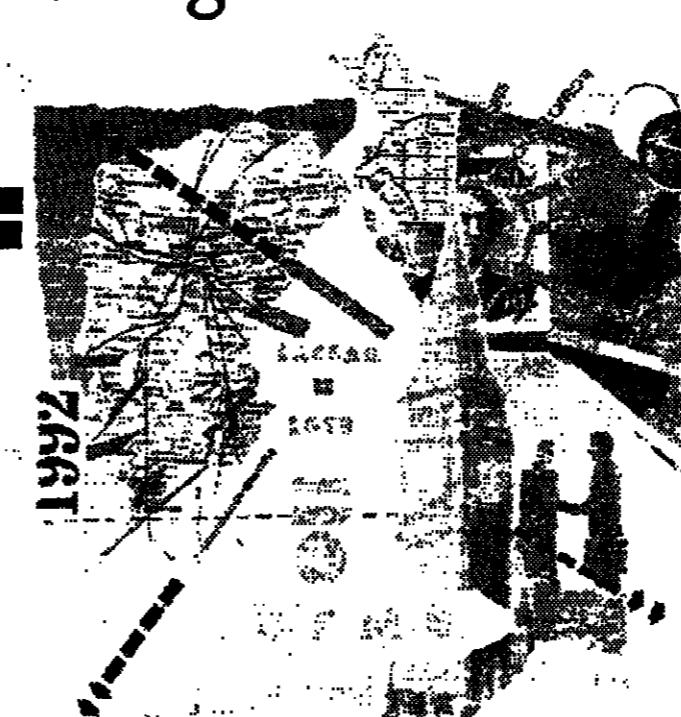
3 Gray's Inn Square, WC1R 5AH

invite applications in strict confidence for the post of Senior Clerk. The Chambers consists of 19 barristers who undertake a wide range of Common Law work including Criminal, Family, Personal Injury, Professional Negligence and Employment.

Applications in own hand together with a C.V. and the names of at least 2 referees should be addressed to James Mulcahy Q.C.

SOCPO Recruitment Advertising Awards 1990

THE MANAGEMENT
OF DIVERSITY



The strength of recruitment advertising in the Public Sector was formally recognised for the first time last year, through SOCPO's inaugural Recruitment Advertising Awards.

In response to the tremendous interest the event generated, and wishing to continue to encourage innovation in the field, SOCPO will again showcase the industry's best creative work this year. The awards ceremony will take place on March 21st at the SOCPO Annual Seminar in Blackpool.

To qualify for entry, you must be an advertiser in the Public Sector. Entry is free, and all advertisements must be submitted by January 29th 1990.

The judging panel is drawn from members of the SOCPO Executive Committee, sponsors, and PRO's in the Public Sector. They will select twelve category winners, from which one overall winner will be chosen.

This year's category sponsors are: Personnel Today, The Guardian, The Evening Standard, The Sunday Times, Opportunities, Municipal Journal, The Independent, Social Work Today, The Times Educational Supplement, Computer Weekly, Local Government Chronicle, the Reed Care Publishing Group (Public Sector).

For full details of how to enter please write to: Annabel Anderson, SOCPO Recruitment Advertising Awards Secretary, c/o 26 Brassey Square, Battersea, London, SW11.

HORIZONS

People who guide the dogs that lead

A dedicated group train the animals that help the blind. Janis Mackay visits a centre where trainers are taught

In 1931, in a garage in Wallasey, Cheshire, the first four guide dogs for the blind were trained. Today, the Guide Dogs for the Blind Association, a charitable organization, has more than 6,000 dogs. Most are working guide dogs and 4,000 blind people in Britain are estimated to have them.

The association obtains all its dogs from its breeding centre near Warwick. Most are labradors and labrador-golden retriever crosses. A smaller number are australians and golden retrievers. At any time the association has about 700 puppies, which in this early stage of training are taken into "foster" homes to be looked after by volunteer families, known as puppy walkers.

With its puppy walker the animal becomes accustomed to people, traffic and the hustle and bustle of life. At a year old it leaves the family environment for a training centre.

Who then are the people training these dogs to such a level that ultimately a blind person can enjoy more freedom and independence than any stick or machine can give?

I visited the association's centre in Forfar, Scotland. There are seven such centres throughout



Partners: Shona Cormie with Quella at the Guide Dogs for the Blind Association training centre in Forfar

Britain, and smaller "satellite" centres are also being set up. There are about 20 dog-handling staff at every centre, falling into the three main categories of kennel staff, dog-trainers and guide dog mobility instructors. I was struck by the dedication and commitment of the people involved with the care and training of the dogs.

The work, it is fair to say, is not

so much a job but a way of life. All staff begin their apprenticeship living in at the centre and should be prepared to move to any of the centres, making the job difficult for people with families or a preference for a settled lifestyle. Staff can be up at dawn, a bed with the moon, sometimes working six and a half days a week and away from home.

To become a guide dog mobility instructor, staff are involved at the advanced stage of the training, working with the blind people, matching the dog with the blind person, then teaching the blind person how to handle the dog. It requires a two-and-a-half-year apprenticeship.

Dog-handling staff begin in kennels. This preliminary stage lasts six months and ends with an examination. If successful, the apprentice advances to develop basic dog-trainer duties. This stage

lasts a minimum of nine months and ends with the trainer's exam.

In the final stage of at least 15 months the apprentice works with an instructor to learn the skills required to develop a dog into a trustworthy guide dog. The culmination of this stage is the guide dog mobility instructor examination. The successful student is now ready to instruct a dog, work with blind people, and instruct an apprentice.

Shona Cormie, an instructor with the association for 10 years, says: "Every day is different. One

day I might be down town taking the dogs through obstacle courses. Another day I could be introducing a blind student to a new dog. To witness that relationship is something very humbling."

She manages to combine her work with marriage, showing that one does not necessarily rule out the other. "Most of my work while training dogs is a reasonable 9 to 5," she says. "During 'class' things are a bit different."

Class lasts for a month three times a year. This is when the

blind people who have been granted a dog after assessment by the instructor attend the centre. The work then becomes its most intense for the instructor, and possibly the most rewarding.

The blind people, known here as students, leave their homes and learn how to handle their dog. This can be difficult for the blind student, and the staff need all their skills in dealing with people as well as animals. During class an instructor will work six and a half days a week and may have to be involved in the blind students'

evening social activities. This training period is followed by after-care, for which the instructor goes to the home of the blind person, now united with his dog, and helps him with routes.

An instructor usually works with five dogs at once, eventually matching four of them to blind applicants. The extra dog is there to ensure the best matches are made. The instructor follows progress, and after-care visits can take the instructor away from home for a week at a time. Follow-up visits are usually every six months, particularly when the dog is near the end of its working life of between eight and 10 years. The blind person then returns to class and is given a new dog. Where possible, the retired dog stays in the blind person's home as a pet, or a suitable home is found.

Dog-training staff and instructors spend much of every day walking. They help the dogs to settle into a training routine. Priorities here are to have the dog walking at a comfortable speed and in a straight line and obeying basic commands. Training means patience and perseverance, repeating things many times, and with voice and gestures implanting conditioned reflexes into the dog so that it knows when, and when not, to obey a command.

The blind owner may order the dog forward when there is an obstruction. The dog has to be able to negotiate heights and take account of the width of the person walking beside it. Before handing the dog on to the instructor for

advanced training the trainer will have worked blindfold with it. Some staff are happy to remain as trainers, others as kennel staff. Elaine works in the dogs' hospital — kennels for ailing dogs or, as is often the case, those that have been spayed or castrated. Her day begins at 6.45am. Paperwork can take it into the evening. Elaine is nurse to her dogs and loves her job. She, like many other staff, lives at the centre and is dedicated.

Dedication and commitment are vital. Salaries start at £8,620 for an apprentice and can reach £14,975 for an instructor. But Cormie points out: "This is not something you do for the money. You can have low days, walking miles in the rain, for instance. It's the memories of the good moments that keep you going."

Walking in rain, hail or snow, sometimes miles in a day, requires health and fitness. However, easy checks and a way with dogs are not enough. A person involved with guide dogs must also have reasonable academic intelligence. There is often paperwork, exams must be sat and organizational matters have to be dealt with, such as after-care visits. And someone wishing to train as a guide dog mobility instructor should have experience of working with groups of people, preferably blind or disabled, and should be a good communicator — with both man and dog.

For further information: Personnel Dept, Guide Dogs for the Blind Association, Alexandra House, 9 Park Street, Windsor, Berkshire SL4 1JR (0753 855711).

Continued From Previous Page

PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS

A CHALLENGE FOR THE 90's

DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

Circa £36k

Package including Benefits

- To develop efficient financial and administrative systems and procedures for effective implementation of the College's Mission Statement and Business strategies.
- To provide an effective and efficient Company Secretary role to our Board of Governors.

To excel in this challenging and demanding executive post you must be a qualified Accountant. You must also have a successful record of controlling the financial and commercial aspects of a significant business and possess skills in planning and business organisation.

You can expect a varied role within a dynamic and enterprising organisation which will provide scope for your own personal career development.

Candidates should submit in confidence a comprehensive Curriculum Vitae to the Head of Personnel Services, Humbershire College of Higher Education, Cottingham Road, Hull, HU6 7RT. Telephone: 0482 440550.

Closing date for applications is 15th January 1990.

HUMBERSIDE
COLLEGE OF HIGHER EDUCATION

LEOMINSTER DISTRICT COUNCIL DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICES

Salary - up to £28,548 per annum

Leominster District Council has recently undergone a radical revision of its Departmental structure, followed by the appointment of a new Chief Executive who takes up his post on 1st February 1990. The Authority is preparing actively for the significant changes facing local government and is also carrying out a fundamental review of its policies and methods of operation. In an environment of radical change, there is a determination to be progressive.

The Director of Public Services is a new Chief Officer post encompassing the traditional Planning, Technical Services, Health and Housing functions of the District Council. This is an ideal opportunity for a person with enthusiasm, initiative and above all, the commitment to "make things happen" in an environment of change.

Candidates must be able to demonstrate proven management experience, ideally in a multi-disciplinary environment; the ability to manage change and achieve results; energy, drive and flair, coupled with the leadership qualities to weld together a new Department and motivate staff; and responsiveness to customer requirements.

The Council's expectations are high, but as well as considerable job satisfaction and an excellent remuneration and relocation package, the area remains delightful and unspoilt.

FURTHER DETAILS and an application form may be obtained from the Chief Executive at Grange House, Leominster, Herefordshire, HR6 8NP, or by telephone on 0588 611100. Applications are returnable BY NOON ON 26TH JANUARY 1990 and interviews are expected to take place on 7th, 8th and 9th February 1990.

G.A. ROBSON Chief Executive

Head Injury Study CASE MANAGER

£16,133 - £18,605 pa inc

This study examines the effects of case management on the recovery of head injured patients and families. It is now entering its fourth year and will run for a further eighteen months.

We require someone with clinical experience in treating patients with neurological disorders to fill the post of case manager. This work involves intensive contact with patients, families and a wide range of services in acute units and in the community. High levels of initiative and flexibility are required to find the right help at the right time.

Based at St Bartholomew's Hospital, with field work in parts of East London, Essex and Hertfordshire. Initial training and on-going supervision will be provided. Car ownership is essential.

For an informal discussion contact Mrs Price on 01-601 7685 or 0484 864303. Application details available from the Personnel Department, St Bartholomew's Hospital, West Smithfield, London, EC1A 7BE. Tel: 01-601 8590 quoting ref. C/049. Completed application forms to be returned by 24th January 1990. Interviews will be held on 31st January 1990.

Working Towards Equal Opportunities.

Coleg Prifysgol Cymru Aberystwyth

The University College of Wales

POST OF REGISTRAR AND SECRETARY

Applications are invited for the post of Registrar and Secretary from 1 October 1990.

The successful applicant will be the senior member of a management team chosen and directed by the Principal. The Registrar and Secretary will be responsible for the co-ordination and day-to-day overall direction of the members of the management team, pursuant to the terms agreed individually and collectively with the Principal.

Previous management experience at a senior level, particularly in the field of Higher Education, is essential. The College operates a merit-based pay and a knowledge of Welsh is an important qualification. This is a challenging and demanding post for which an appropriate salary on ALG Grade 6 will be offered.

Further details and an application form for this appointment can be obtained from the Staff Officer, The University College of Wales, Old College, King Street, Aberystwyth, SY23 2AX to whom completed application forms should be returned not later than Thursday 3 February 1990.

PUBLIC FINANCE

EDEN DISTRICT COUNCIL ASSISTANT TREASURER (REVENUE)

Salary £16,743-£18,225
+ Leased Car + Attractive Relocation Package

Eden is a rural district with a mix of the Lake District and Pennines. It is one of the finest places in the country to live and work. The quality of life is outstanding.

The Treasurer's Department has undergone radical transformation in the last five years with all financial systems now being fully computerised. The Community Councils are a major part of the Council's work. A vacancy has arisen for this important third tier post to continue the successful implementation of all new revenue legislation.

We are looking for an energetic and enthusiastic management accountant with a background to lead 30 staff. To find out more about this exciting post and to have the right experience why don't you ring Alan Ellison, Treasurer on 0768 64671.

Application forms may be obtained from the Comptroller Services Officer, Town Hall, Penrith, Cumbria CA11 8QD and should be returned by 19th January, 1990.

The Council is an equal opportunities employer. canvassing of Members or Senior Officers of the Council will disqualify.

LOCAL AUTHORITY LEGAL WORK LOCUMS AND PART TIME ENGAGEMENTS

A local authority in the East London area wishes to supplement its existing staff with additional contractual engagements.

Remuneration is negotiable on an hourly rate basis. Retainers will also be considered. The areas of work relate to conveyancing and civil litigation. Applicants (admitted or unadmitted) are asked to reply briefly to the box number below by 23rd January 1990 stating address, qualifications, preferred hours and/or days of work and telephone number. All replies will be treated in the strictest confidence.

Box No. G22

Box No. Dept.

P.O. Box 484, Virginia Street, London E1 9DD

هذا من الأصل

CRICKET: ENGLAND CAPTAIN IS SURPRISINGLY OPTIMISTIC ABOUT THE CARIBBEAN CHALLENGES AWAITS HIS TEAM

Gooch looks on the bright side

By Alan Lee
Cricket Correspondent

advanced training the team have worked on. Some players are happy to remain with the team, others as keepers. Claire works in the dog's kennels for all the dogs. Often the case, those that have been spayed or castrated, begin at 4.45am. Paperwork, nurse to her dogs and her job. She likes many other things at the centre and does a lot of work. Dedication and concern are vital. Salaries start at £14,475 for an amateur. Claire points out: "The team can have low days, yet the memories of the games that keep you going."

Walking in rain, that's a health and fitness. However, checks and a way with dogs: enough. A person involved guide dogs must also have a good academic intelligence. It is often paperwork, exams and organisational work to be dealt with after-care visits. And we are wishing to train as a mobility instructor should experience of working with people, preferably blind disabled, and should be a communicator - with both and dog.

For more information, contact the Dogs for the Blind, 1000 London Road, Buntingford, Herts, WD10 8JL. Tel: 0524 822222. Fax: 0524 822222. Email: dogs@buntingford.demon.co.uk

INSTITUTE OF CENTRAL SERVICES
DEPARTMENTnior Committee
Assistant

Street grace: Claire

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

53000

England and France delay introduction of younger players

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

Three of the four XV's for the first round of the five nations' championship on January 20 were named over the weekend — the fourth, Wales, is due to be announced tomorrow when the training party returns from the Algarve — and each of the five nations must obviously be looking ahead to 1991 and their potential World Cup parties.

With that in mind, it is significant that the two countries with the greatest choice in playing numbers — England and France — have gone for teams with an average age of just under 29. By the time the World Cup comes around in October 1991, and assuming no huge change in personnel, they will be two mature squads as against, for example, New Zealand, whose team which beat Wales and Ireland recently boasted an average age of 27 and, with one, or two exceptions, might be reaching a peak next year.

It will be a very delicate matter of judgement, therefore, which players from France or England may still be effective forces by the time of the World Cup, but, as Geoff Cooke, the England team manager, said last week, that has as much to do with

Sunshine break voted a resounding success

From a Special Correspondent

Geoff Cooke, the England team manager, was in a confident mood as the squad concluded a successful five-day training camp at the La Santa resort in Lanzarote yesterday.

The players came through the various fitness tests and other physically demanding tasks without serious injury, although many will be suffering from stiffness until the end of the week.

England plan to repeat this sunshine break in the first week of January next year with Lanzarote again the likely destination following the success of this visit. The facilities have satisfied both the fitness advisers and the players.

McGeechan will head tour

By Alan Lorimer

Ian McGeechan is to be the Scotland coach for this year's tour to New Zealand, in May and June, and will be assisted by Derrick Grant.

Duncan Paterson, the Scotland tour manager, said at Murrayfield yesterday: "I am delighted with the coaching team. Both were in New Zealand for the world cup." He added: "Jim Telfer was not available for consideration." The rest of the management team will be Dr Donald MacLeod, the honorary surgeon, and Denis Bradley, the physiotherapist, who accompanied Scotland to Japan last May.

The party of 30 players is to be selected after the Calcutta match on March 17 and is expected to be made public on March 22.

So far, according to Paterson, none of the leading players has stated unavailability for the tour, which he sees as "a big test for Scottish rugby. We have to be thoroughly prepared."

The cancellation of Romania's tour to New Zealand

Kiernan's net is to be more widely spread

By George Att

Tom Kiernan, who won 54 caps for Ireland and captained his country on 24 occasions, as well as leading the British Isles touring party to South Africa in 1968, has brought to fruition a scheme which has been occupying him for some time.

Kiernan, last year's president of the Irish RFU, is now chairman of an "exiles" committee formed to keep a watchful eye on the large number of players who leave Ireland to further their education and also to encourage a player with acceptable qualifications to return to Ireland.

David Donovan is the honorary secretary of the committee which also includes Ken Kennedy, Barry O'Driscoll, Walter Jones, and John McLoughlin.

All have played the game at a high level — some at the highest — and their brief also includes a further strengthening of ties with the London Irish club, which has made a tremendous

lineout for Rathkeale, while

Twist, in the centre, always looked a player of class.

It is not unusual to suspect that the second XV will be flanking to the loose. Three clear-cut opportunities for Rathkeale were squandered by mis timed passes or prevented by superb defence — twice by Chidi-Ofong over on the left wing from his position on the right.

Finally, Twist, who had always threatened, made good ground before feeding Francis, the Wales captain, the scoring pass back inside to Twist.

Twist, trying to run the ball early in the second half, prompted a significant breakaway but, when Lloyd intercepted in his own half, his intended pass to Chidi-Ofong, who was clear, was badly duffed. Glazebrook's penalty, however, cut Rathkeale's lead to a single point.

A great tackle by Glazebrook

on the burly Denton prevented an apparently certain try, but as Rugby appeared to tire a little in the final 10 minutes, Rathkeale mounted some pressure.

Finally, Twist, who had always threatened, made good ground before feeding Francis, the Wales captain, the scoring pass back inside to Twist.

Twist, trying to run the ball early in the second half, prompted a significant breakaway but, when Lloyd intercepted in his own half, his intended pass to Chidi-Ofong, who was clear, was badly duffed. Glazebrook's penalty, however, cut Rathkeale's lead to a single point.

RESULTS: Rugby: P. Glazebrook (Rathkeale) tries; T. Twist, F. Denton, S. Chidi-Ofong (Rathkeale); S. Baines, P. C. Morrison, M. E. Robinson, A. Robertson, P. H. Jones (Rathkeale).

RATHKEALE: R. Pfeiffer; W. Francis, T. Kiernan, G. Hume, S. Glazebrook, D. Morrison, F. Denton, P. C. Morrison, M. E. Robinson, S. Baines, P. H. Jones (Rathkeale).

Rugby are Rathkeale's latest scalp

By Michael Stevenson

Rugby School, 3

The Rathkeale, 10

Rathkeale, from New Zealand, continued their ambitious trip to England, France, Ireland and Scotland with victory over Rugby School by a goal and a try to a penalty. With one match to play in London, the team to play an unbeaten team round.

That they did not manage to play anything like as fluently as they had done against, for example, Eastbourne College, was a tribute to the courage and dedication of Rugby's tackling. In this department Lloyd, Chidi-Ofong and Harrison were tremendous. The pick of Rugby's pack was Robson, their mobile lock. But no one could compete with Buchanan in the

lineout for Rathkeale, while

Twist, in the centre, always looked a player of class.

It is not unusual to suspect that the second XV will be flanking to the loose. Three clear-cut opportunities for Rathkeale were squandered by mis timed passes or prevented by superb defence — twice by Chidi-Ofong over on the left wing from his position on the right.

Finally, Twist, who had always threatened, made good ground before feeding Francis, the Wales captain, the scoring pass back inside to Twist.

Twist, trying to run the ball early in the second half, prompted a significant breakaway but, when Lloyd intercepted in his own half, his intended pass to Chidi-Ofong, who was clear, was badly duffed. Glazebrook's penalty, however, cut Rathkeale's lead to a single point.

A great tackle by Glazebrook

on the burly Denton prevented an apparently certain try, but as Rugby appeared to tire a little in the final 10 minutes, Rathkeale mounted some pressure.

Finally, Twist, who had always threatened, made good ground before feeding Francis, the Wales captain, the scoring pass back inside to Twist.

Twist, trying to run the ball early in the second half, prompted a significant breakaway but, when Lloyd intercepted in his own half, his intended pass to Chidi-Ofong, who was clear, was badly duffed. Glazebrook's penalty, however, cut Rathkeale's lead to a single point.

RESULTS: Rugby: P. Glazebrook (Rathkeale) tries; T. Kiernan, G. Hume, S. Glazebrook, D. Morrison, F. Denton, P. C. Morrison, M. E. Robinson, S. Baines, P. H. Jones (Rathkeale).

RATHKEALE: R. Pfeiffer; W. Francis, T. Kiernan, G. Hume, S. Glazebrook, D. Morrison, F. Denton, P. C. Morrison, M. E. Robinson, S. Baines, P. H. Jones (Rathkeale).



Blue Rainbow (Peter Scudamore, right), overhauling Setter Country (Wally Irvine) at the last, helps Martin Pipe land a four-timer at Chepstow

Lucky Verdict shaping for Triumph

Martin Pipe collected a superb 632-1 four-timer at Chepstow today, and also gained full marks for his skills as a clairvoyant.

The man with the Midas

touch has already trained 123 winners this season — twice as many as anyone else — and predicted the outcome of the first division of the Rabbit Novices' Hurdle, won in grand style by his possible Triumph Hurdle candidate, Lucky Verdict.

His owner, Richard Green, was on Concorde in mid-Atlantic while the race was being run, but he had rung Pipe from Heathrow earlier in the day.

"I told Mr Green what the result would be, and even gave him the forecast, but unfortunately I got the starting price wrong," quipped Pipe by a narrow margin.

Lucky Verdict, the 6-4 on favourite, quickened the tempo approaching the final flight to dismiss Devil's Valley by 12 lengths, and Corals instantly trimmed his Triumph Hurdle odds from 33-1 to 20-1.

Wins for Milneta, Blue Rainbow and North Lane completed the champion trainer's second four-timer of the season.

runners. Graham Sharpe of Hounds reported: "We are ashamed. The nearest equivalent to this was Lester Piggott in his heyday. When he had a good day, we had a bad one."

North Lane, at 13 the senior member of Pipe's ever-increasing team, was give a ride by Peter Scudamore to outstay Dercader in the Johnny Clay

Memorial Chase Handicap by 2½ lengths.

Two young jockeys named

Foster were in action in the Future Chasers Conditional Jockeys Handicap Hurdle and their fortunes could not have been more contrasting.

Martin Foster, the youngest

son of former West Country jockey Johnny Foster, won the

leaders too much leeway.

The success of Milneta even caught Pipe by surprise. The man had been pulled up in four of his six races to date, and the trainer said: "They say every dog has his day. This must have been a desperate race for her to win."

Jenny Pitman was fined £75 by the stewards at Sandown on Saturday for not running her expensive Irish horse, "T've had a lot of good horses."

Murphy had earlier initiated a double when Bransden, a 3-1 chance, won the Beeston Novices' Hurdle after two impressive bumper wins last year, shown out like a beacon.

Keep Hope Alive is owned by Marie Donnelly, whose husband, Joe, is one of Ireland's leading bookmakers and a member of the Irish Racing Board.

They are keen for a crack at Cheltenham's San Alliance Hurdle in March which Curley is also eyeing, although in the shorter term he wants to give his another outing soon. "He

needs the experience and this was a very moderate race."

When pressed if this was one of the best individuals he has found for Curley, grinned: "I've had a lot of good horses."

Murphy had earlier initiated a double when Bransden, a 3-1 chance, won the Beeston Novices' Hurdle after two impressive bumper wins last year, shown out like a beacon.

Curley, having only his second winner of a season which has been marred by coughing at his Newmarket stable, recently won Keep Hope Alive at Leicester after he coughed on

the way to the start and he was still coughing as late as last

Friday. "That did not fill me with too much confidence," admitted Curley, no stranger to top-class performers, having had Cheltenham Gold Cup winners Silver Buck and Forgive 'N' Forget, though his hands during early stages of their careers.

Keep Hope Alive is owned by Marie Donnelly, whose husband, Joe, is one of Ireland's leading bookmakers and a member of the Irish Racing Board.

They are keen for a crack at Cheltenham's San Alliance Hurdle in March which Curley is also eyeing, although in the shorter term he wants to give his another outing soon. "He

needs the experience and this was a very moderate race."

When pressed if this was one of the best individuals he has found for Curley, grinned: "I've had a lot of good horses."

Murphy had earlier initiated a double when Bransden, a 3-1 chance, won the Beeston Novices' Hurdle after two impressive bumper wins last year, shown out like a beacon.

Curley, having only his second winner of a season which has been marred by coughing at his Newmarket stable, recently won Keep Hope Alive at Leicester after he coughed on

the way to the start and he was still coughing as late as last

Friday. "That did not fill me with too much confidence," admitted Curley, no stranger to top-class performers, having had Cheltenham Gold Cup winners Silver Buck and Forgive 'N' Forget, though his hands during early stages of their careers.

Keep Hope Alive is owned by Marie Donnelly, whose husband, Joe, is one of Ireland's leading bookmakers and a member of the Irish Racing Board.

They are keen for a crack at Cheltenham's San Alliance Hurdle in March which Curley is also eyeing, although in the shorter term he wants to give his another outing soon. "He

needs the experience and this was a very moderate race."

When pressed if this was one of the best individuals he has found for Curley, grinned: "I've had a lot of good horses."

Murphy had earlier initiated a double when Bransden, a 3-1 chance, won the Beeston Novices' Hurdle after two impressive bumper wins last year, shown out like a beacon.

Curley, having only his second winner of a season which has been marred by coughing at his Newmarket stable, recently won Keep Hope Alive at Leicester after he coughed on

the way to the start and he was still coughing as late as last

Friday. "That did not fill me with too much confidence," admitted Curley, no stranger to top-class performers, having had Cheltenham Gold Cup winners Silver Buck and Forgive 'N' Forget, though his hands during early stages of their careers.

Keep Hope Alive is owned by Marie Donnelly, whose husband, Joe, is one of Ireland's leading bookmakers and a member of the Irish Racing Board.

They are keen for a crack at Cheltenham's San Alliance Hurdle in March which Curley is also eyeing, although in the shorter term he wants to give his another outing soon. "He

needs the experience and this was a very moderate race."

When pressed if this was one of the best individuals he has found for Curley, grinned: "I've had a lot of good horses."

Murphy had earlier initiated a double when Bransden, a 3-1 chance, won the Beeston Novices' Hurdle after two impressive bumper wins last year, shown out like a beacon.

Curley, having only his second winner of a season which has been marred by coughing at his Newmarket stable, recently won Keep Hope Alive at Leicester after he coughed on

the way to the start and he was still coughing as late as last

Friday. "That did not fill me with too much confidence," admitted Curley, no stranger to top-class performers, having had Cheltenham Gold Cup winners Silver Buck and Forgive 'N' Forget, though his hands during early stages of their careers.

Keep Hope Alive is owned by Marie Donnelly, whose husband, Joe, is one of Ireland's leading bookmakers and a member of the Irish Racing Board.

They are keen for a crack at Cheltenham's San Alliance Hurdle in March which Curley is also eyeing, although in the shorter term he wants to give his another outing soon. "He

needs the experience and this was a very moderate race."

When pressed if this was one of the best individuals he has found for Curley, grinned: "I've had a lot of good horses."

Murphy had earlier initiated a double when Bransden, a 3-1 chance, won the Beeston Novices' Hurdle after two impressive bumper wins last year, shown out like a beacon.

Curley, having only his second winner of a season which has been marred by coughing at his Newmarket stable, recently won Keep Hope Alive at Leicester after he coughed on

the way to the start and he was still coughing as late as last

Friday. "That did not fill me with too much confidence," admitted Curley, no stranger to top-class performers, having had Cheltenham Gold Cup winners Silver Buck and Forgive 'N' Forget, though his hands during early stages of their careers.

FOOTBALL

Kendall admits that City's search for talent is incomplete

By Ian Ross and Louise Taylor

Howard Kendall completed his fourth week in charge at Manchester City yesterday and hinted that the biggest shake-up of playing personnel in the club's history was not yet at an end.

Since his appointment as the successor to Mel Machin, who was dismissed in November, Kendall has been involved in nine transfer deals, bringing four new players to Maine Road and allowing five to leave.

Kendall has bought Peter Reid from Queen's Park Rangers, Mark Ward from West Ham United, Alan Harper from Sheffield Wednesday and Wayne Clarke from Leicester City, while selling Ian Bishop and Trevor Morley to West Ham, Neil McNab to Tranmere Rovers, David Oldfield to Leicester City and Jerry Taggart to Barnsley.

But despite radically changing the make-up of a City side which faces Millwall in an FA Cup third-round replay at Gold Blow Lane tonight, Kendall admitted that his search for new talent would continue.

"I am not yet completely happy with my playing staff and I'm still on the look-out for men who, I feel, would improve the situation. I would

rather make decisions and do things I think are right and fair than sit on the fence, not upsetting people, and still fail," he said.

Although Kendall signed Clarke at the weekend, in a £650,000 deal which saw Oldfield move to Fibertel Street, he is known to be keen to secure another forward of proven ability.

Paul Stewart, who joined Tottingham Hotspur from City in a £1.9 million deal 18 months ago, is believed to be at the top of Kendall's wanted list, and he could well return to Maine Road if Paul Lake, the England under-21 international, who is conservatively valued at £1 million, was to be included in any transfer package.

The chances of Adrian Heath, the Aston Villa forward, who, like Clarke, played under Kendall at Everton, joining City receded dramatically yesterday, after weekend reports that a £360,000 deal was imminent.

Kendall did contact Graham Taylor, the Villa manager, to enquire about Heath's availability, but the talks were held before Clarke arrived.

Kendall has named an unchanged side for tonight's game, and he believes his players are more than capable

of moving into the competition's fourth round.

"Despite Saturday's goalless draw, they are confident they are bubbling. They feel positive about things at the moment," he said.

Keith Branan plays only his third game of the season in goal for Millwall, at home to Manchester City in tonight's third-round replay. The former Cambridge United goalkeeper is on the transfer list, but with Horne, the first choice, having been advised to take 10 days rest, Branan could look forward to an extended tenure as the last line of defence at the Den.

John Docherty, the Millwall manager, said yesterday: "Brian Horne was getting from match to match without training, and in the end, the reactions started to go."

Branan's confidence will be bolstered by the clean sheet he kept while deputising for Horne in Saturday's 0-0 draw, at Maine Road. Indeed, with City's previously porous defence apparently galvanized since Kendall's arrival as manager last month, and the installation of Harper at sweeper, Millwall will need to be inventive in attack.

With Sheringham's ankle injury dictating that he must watch from the stand again, the new partnership of Cassarino and Goodard, a recent £300,000 signing from Derby County, must find a route round the rearguard before taking aim at Dibble in the City goal.

Both sides are at the wrong end of the first division, but while City appear to be recuperating, Millwall have won only once in their last 16 games. However, Docherty believes that a healthy Cup run could prove a catalyst to league success. "We have the chance now to turn the corner," he said. "Some people might suggest that a good run in the FA Cup might harm our chances of moving up the table. But I think it will have the opposite effect."

"It has been reported, quite accurately, that their goalkeeper made four or five saves which kept them in the game. My players did a good job at the weekend and we were not disappointed," he said.

With no fresh injury problems, Dalglish is expected to name an unchanged side as will Ian Evans, the City manager, if he resists the temptation to include, from the start, veterans Hutchison and James.

Swansea City's slender hopes of dispatching Liverpool, the FA Cup holders from this season's competition may end tonight but from a purely financial stand the club's appearance at Anfield tonight will provide more than adequate compensation.

It is expected, a crowd exceeding 50,000 assemblies for

the third round replay, City can

expect to take their gross earnings from £255,000, an enormous and timely boost for a club which recently underlined its determination to build a future comparable to its purchases recent past by purchasing three new players at a total cost of more than £250,000.

Ironically, City over their very existence for the moment are the last team in a pool block of drawing in the most for dividends to be had.

A £250,000 a player fee for the club's best and brightest is the only real reward for the club's efforts at eight. Several other athletes, including another boxer, have been honoured, but the real reward for the club's efforts is the future.

The club has underestimately been a part and is not impossible to buy the club's future. The club's future is the club's future. The club's future is the club's future.

Leeds United are poised to strengthen their bid for promotion from the second division by signing Lee Chapman, the Nottingham Forest forward (Ian Ross writes).

Howard Wilkinson, the Leeds manager, has been seeking to buy a forward with a proven goalscoring record since the start of the season and has been told by his board of directors that money will be made available to finance any transfer.

Chapman, aged 30, is out the first team at Forest after losing his place to Nigel Jemison. Although Brian Clough, the Forest manager, is known to have Chapman in high esteem and would be unlikely to reject any offer advanced from Leeds bearing in mind the player's age.

Wilkinson is likely to make contact with Chapman's availability within the next four hours and if he agrees to it, Forest's asking price, which would be around £400,000, the deal could be completed before the weekend.

Should Chapman opt to remain with Forest, Leeds will try again for Niall Quinn, Arsenal's Republic of Ireland international forward, who is known to be interested at Highbury.

• Thieves broke into Cardiff City Football club over the weekend and stole a number of cheques and £50,000 in cash, the entire gate receipts from the third division club's FA Cup tie against Queen's Park Rangers on Saturday. The raiders broke into the city's Miln Park ground main office and ransacked the safe before escaping undetected.

MOTOR RALLYING

Four drivers penalty-free

Pars (Reuter) — Four drivers covered the tenth stage of the Paris-Dakar rally without incurring time penalties: Bjorn Waldegard, of Sweden, and Philippe Wamberger, of France, both in Peugeot; Andrew Cowan, of Britain, in a Mitsubishi; and Hans Bahrer, of Switzerland, in a Nissan.

• South Africa's fourth stage (Agde to L'Isle-Sainte-Croix) was won by Michelangelo Sarti (Peugeot 405 T16, 1:02.5) followed by Gérard Birolle (Peugeot 405, 1:02.6); Andrew Cowan (Peugeot 405, 1:02.7); and Hans Bahrer (Nissan, 1:02.8).

Conway, aged 18, was sixth in the European championships at Halifax, Nova Scotia, in March.

Joanne Conway, four times winner of the British figure skating title, has had to withdraw from the European championships in Leningrad at the end of this month (John Hennessy writes). She is recovering from an operation to release a trapped nerve in her left foot.

Conway, who was replaced as British title holder by Emma Murdoch at Basingstoke in November, was to have accompanied the new champion to Leningrad, but her place has been given to Andrea Law, of Dundee. Law has been preferred to Gina Fulton, who was third at Basingstoke.

Conway, aged 18, was sixth in the European championships in Halifax, Nova Scotia, in March.

ICE SKATING

Conway has to pull out

Birmingham last year after a poor free skating programme. Injury kept her out of the world championships in Paris a few weeks later and she has not competed seriously since, apart from in the British championships.

Her foot was put in plaster after an original diagnosis that she had a dropped toe joint, but a subsequent examination revealed the need for surgery. The 10 stitches are to be removed on Thursday.

The National Skating Association will hold a screening of all three skaters after who will take the one place open to Britain in the world championships at Halifax, Nova Scotia, in March.

Conway, aged 18, was sixth in the European championships in

London (Agence France Presse).

• Joanne Conway, four times

winner of the British figure

skating title, has had to with-

draw from the European

championships in Leningrad at

the end of this month (John

Hennessy writes). She is recov-

ering from an operation to re-

lease a trapped nerve in her

left foot.

Conway, who was replaced as

British title holder by Emma

Murdoch at Basingstoke in

November, was to have

accompanied the new champion

to Leningrad, but her place has

been given to Andrea Law, of

Dundee. Law has been preferred

to Gina Fulton, who was third at

Basingstoke.

Conway, aged 18, was sixth in

the European championships in

London (Agence France Presse).

• Joanne Conway, four times

winner of the British figure

skating title, has had to with-

draw from the European

championships in Leningrad at

the end of this month (John

Hennessy writes). She is recov-

ering from an operation to re-

lease a trapped nerve in her

left foot.

Conway, who was replaced as

British title holder by Emma

Murdoch at Basingstoke in

November, was to have

accompanied the new champion

to Leningrad, but her place has

been given to Andrea Law, of

Dundee. Law has been preferred

to Gina Fulton, who was third at

Basingstoke.

Conway, aged 18, was sixth in

the European championships in

London (Agence France Presse).

• Joanne Conway, four times

winner of the British figure

skating title, has had to with-

draw from the European

championships in Leningrad at

the end of this month (John

Hennessy writes). She is recov-

ering from an operation to re-

lease a trapped nerve in her

left foot.

Conway, who was replaced as

British title holder by Emma

Murdoch at Basingstoke in

November, was to have

accompanied the new champion

to Leningrad, but her place has

been given to Andrea Law, of

Dundee. Law has been preferred

to Gina Fulton, who was third at

Basingstoke.

Conway, aged 18, was sixth in

the European championships in

London (Agence France Presse).

• Joanne Conway, four times

winner of the British figure

skating title, has had to with-

draw from the European

championships in Leningrad at

the end of this month (John

Hennessy writes). She is recov-

ering from an operation to re-

lease a trapped nerve in her

left foot.

Conway, who was replaced as

British title holder by Emma

Murdoch at Basingstoke in

November, was to have

accompanied the new champion

to Leningrad, but her place has

been given to Andrea Law, of

Dundee. Law has been preferred

to Gina Fulton, who was third at

Basingstoke.

Conway, aged 18, was sixth in

the European championships in

London (Agence France Presse).

• Joanne Conway, four times

winner of the British figure

